Opposition picks Ping as 2004 standard-bearer

Story below, Col. 1

2 broadcasters ambushed: 1 dies, the other survives

By Joyce Mejillano, Gil Francis Arevalo and Dennis Jay C. Santos

TWO broadcasters—one a suspected supporter of communist guerrillas and another an anti-communist commentator—were ambushed separately in Albay and Davao City, with the latter surviving

2 BROADCASTERS/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Uh-oh, look what John O's son is up to

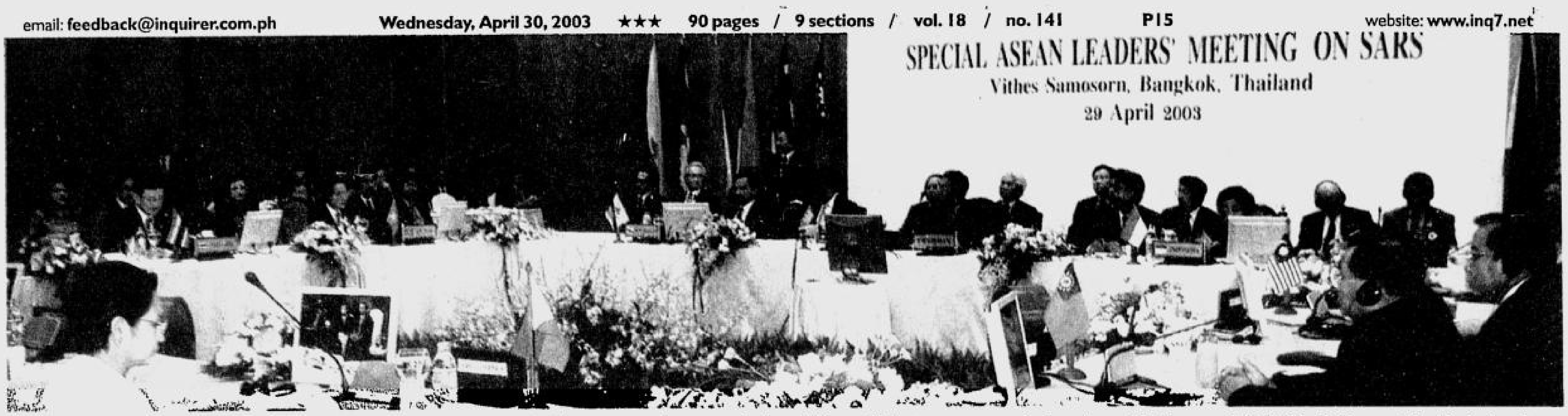
By Kathy I. Navarro and Nestor Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—This province's vice governor prefers to make his point with his fists.

Vice Gov. John Gregory Osmeña, a scion of Cebu's most powerful political family, figured in a fist fight twice in one

UH-OH/ A6

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Wednesday, April 30, 2003 ★★★ 90 pages / 9 sections / vol. 18 / no. 141 P15 website: www.inq7.net


SPECIAL ASEAN LEADERS' MEETING ON SARS
Vithes Samosorn, Bangkok, Thailand
29 April 2003

CRISIS meeting of the leaders of the 10 Asean nations plus China in Bangkok hopes to convince a spooked world that sufficient measures are in place to contain the spread of SARS which has cost drastic declines in the region's economy. The Asean summit agrees on 18 measures to combat SARS, including an information network and the setting up of an emergency fund. AFP

Village bans SARS suspect

Tale of two women: One jeered; the other cheered as she is discharged from hospital in Tacloban

By Ryan D. Rosauro, *PDI Mindanao Bureau*
and Armand N. Nocum, *in Manila*

OZAMIZ CITY—A woman suspected of being afflicted with the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome has been expelled by residents of Barangay Tinago.

The woman, a native of Oroquieta City, arrived in Tinago from Manila at about noon on Saturday. She had a cold and was complaining of dizziness.

She took the same passenger liner that ferried the domestic helper from Tambulig town who was widely suspected of having SARS.

What alerted the residents was the mask that the woman was wearing. Their fears rose after hearing her say that her deck was near that of the Tambulig woman.

The residents went to Beth Paulino, president of Purok Riverside, and demanded that she tell the woman's brother to remove her from the community.

"She just wanted to rest in her brother's house because she was dizzy from the trip," Paulino said later.

VILLAGE/ A18

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—She waved, and the people applauded. What a difference a clean bill of health makes.

JP, the overseas worker from Hong Kong who was misdiagnosed as the country's fourth SARS patient, emerged from her hospital isolation room yesterday afternoon, to a decidedly more friendly world.

JP was accompanied by her husband and a younger sister when she left the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC), where she had been confined for the past five days.

She came out from her room at around 3:10 p.m. and immediately boarded a hospital ambulance that was to bring her home to Barangay Maybucog in Maydolong, Eastern Samar, some 224 km from this city.

When she came out, kibitzers that included patients, medical staff, office personnel, drivers and ordinary onlookers cheered her on.

"I am happy that this is over

TALE/ A18

Roxas admits N95 masks out of stock

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

IF 3M decides to remove the supply allocation to the Philippines, expect the acute shortage in N95-type mask, the basic gear against the spread of SARS, to worsen.

This was revealed by Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II who admitted that the N95-type masks were out of stock and that orders have been filled up to next month.

Roxas said that 3M, which had earmarked 5 percent of its output of N95 masks to the Philippines, was planning to divert the supply to countries hardest hit by SARS.

3M produces the N95 masks out of its factory in the United States. This type mask has been certified by the World Health Organization as the minimum standard required for health-care workers exposed to SARS. The N95 model has the least tolerance for oily environment; No. 95 signifies its filter efficiency. Thus, the N95 model is able to filter 95 percent of all particles 0.3 micron

ROXAS/ A18

ROGER MARCALLO

JUST like any traveler, President Macapagal's temperature is taken before boarding a Lear jet for Bangkok. No one was allowed to kiss her goodbye. She also carried and anti-killer pneumonia kit.

Asean plus China agree on SARS battle plan

By Alcuin Papa

BANGKOK (via PLDT)—Philippine President Macapagal-Arroyo and other Southeast Asian leaders yesterday held crisis talks with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and agreed to set up a regional information network to combat Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Asia's worst crisis since the financial meltdown of 1997-1998.

China has been criticized for not revealing the true extent of the disease for months after it first appeared there last November and then was spread internationally by air travelers via Hong Kong.

In an unprecedented move, the Chinese premier came to Bangkok to brief Asean leaders about Beijing's efforts to combat the disease, which has killed 148 in China.

Also with the official Chinese delegation was Tung Chee-hwa,

ASEAN/ A21

Now that we've acknowledged the truth . . .

By Sen. Juan M. Flavier, MD

Editors' Note. The author, chair of the Senate Committee on Health and a former health secretary, argues for mandatory pre-departure and arrival quarantines for overseas workers, to protect what he called the country's competitive edge: the overseas workers.

COMMENTARY

FINALLY we are all in agreement. We have SARS.

In a sense I am relieved. Now that we have acknowledged the truth, we can frame both the truth and proposed actions beyond the current context of a disease outbreak. If we limit our reading of the problem to this level, we run the risk of doing more damage than good.

The truth is:

We must stress what we know.

First, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome affects all nations. It affects the way nations and economies interact with each other now and in the future.

This was my problem with all the debate over whether or not SARS was officially here. The notion of a "SARS-free" country based on the convoluted definition of the "absence of local transmission," was a bubble waiting to burst. In a globalized world where people, ideas, products and services cross borders at an unprecedented rate, the concept of a country that could be geo-

NOW/ A18

'United opposition' picks Lacson for 2004

THE FACE of the opposition is Sen. Panfilo Lacson whom party leaders endorse on Tuesday for the presidential election next year. From left, Reps. Carlos Padilla and Butz Aquino, Juan Ponce Enrile, JV Ejercito. JOAN BONDOC

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Christine O. Avendaño

FOR now, Sen. Panfilo Lacson is the "face of the united opposition" for next year's presidential election.

At the launching of the "united opposition" yesterday, leaders of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) and of ousted President Joseph Estrada's Partido ng Masang Pilipino (PMP) endorsed Lacson as their presidential candidate.

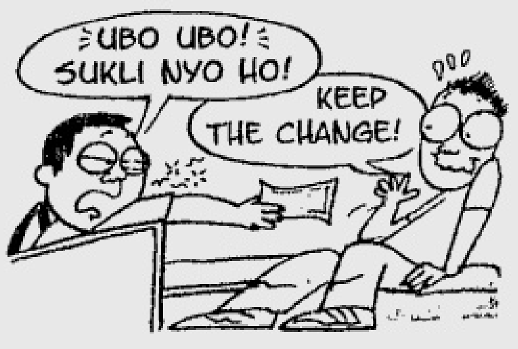
Conspicuously absent was Sen. Edgardo Angara, LDP president, who reportedly has declared his support for businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco as the opposition's standard-bearer.

About 200 politicians and supporters gathered at Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan, for the launching, which was held reportedly after a feng shui expert had said that any day between April 26 and 29 would be "auspicious" for Lacson.

The delegates recited a "pledge of unity" which asked Lacson to "lead us until victory is achieved."

But ex-Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, lead convenor of the "united opposition," said that others aspiring to be the opposition candidate were still welcome to

UNITED/ A6


UBO UBO! SUKLI NYO HO!
KEEP THE CHANGE!

When laundering money is good

By Norman Bordadora and Armand N. Nocum

IT'S literally dirty money.

Dr. Michael Angelo Medina, coordinating physician of the health organization SOS International, is not ruling out the possibility that a person can get SARS from money bills and coins.

WHEN/ A18

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Visayas and Eastern Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/04/30/03

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Peace talks not fast enough–KL

By Norman Bordadora

MALAYSIA yesterday said talks between the Philippine government and Muslim rebels were not moving fast enough because of the continued violence in Mindanao.

As mediator in the government's peace negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, Malaysia called on the secessionist group to stop performing acts that showed "terrorist tendencies."

Mohamad Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Malaysian defense minister, urged the rebels to "work within the constitutional framework" of the Philippines.

In his keynote speech before the National Conference on Regional Security, Najib said Malaysia, a mostly Muslim state, did not support or condone Islamic secessionists seeking change through "extreme" behavior outside the political arena. "We respect the territorial integrity of the Philippines," Najib said.

The conference, held in Makati City and attended by about 100 defense officials, academics and diplomats, was organized by the Center for Strategic Studies of the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Special Concerns.

"Muslims must be reminded that extremism is loathed by Islam and that resorting to violence is equally condemned by true believers," Najib said. "Islam is a religion of peace," Najib said.

"If indeed it claims to represent Muslims," the Malaysian official stressed, "the Moro movement must combat radicalism and militant elements within its organization.

The call for jihad, or Muslim holy war, had long been abused by extremists to instill fear and create terror, Najib said. He urged "all sides" to see the big picture, rather than dwelling on "parochial issues and interests."

He cited the Abu Sayyaf kidnap gang as an example. "This group is using Islam to confuse people," he said.

As for other Muslim rebels, Najib said: "(They) must concentrate on bringing greater development to the community instead of merely aiming to seize power. Let us call for a jihad against poverty, against ignorance, against underdevelopment and against prejudice."

Talks to resume

Malaysia has hosted previous talks between government negotiators and the MILF that have led to a shaky truce and other accords. But fighting has recently flared up anew, and the government has accused the rebels of planting bombs in an airport and a bustling wharf in the past two months.

At least 38 people were killed and 150 others were injured in the attacks, for which several MILF leaders and members are now facing murder charges.

An exploratory meeting in Kuala Lumpur last month failed to put an end to the fighting, raising the specter of another impasse.

The MILF, the largest Muslim guerrilla group in the Philippines with about 12,000 fighters, insisted that troops pull out of its overran base and that the charges against its members be dropped.

On the slightly brighter side, both camps have now agreed to resume formal peace negotiations suspended two years ago. More exploratory talks are set in the Malaysian capital in the next few days.

While conceding that some headway had been made, Najib foretold more "temporary setbacks along the road."

True enough, the military reported yesterday that five Muslim rebels and one soldier had been killed in an hour-long gun battle after an army convoy was ambushed outside Datu Odin Sinsuat town in Maguindanao province.

Najib called on the opposing sides to establish "confidence-building measures" that could go beyond peace accords. "If both are committed," he said, "I am optimistic peace can be achieved."

He said he discussed measures to move the process forward with President Macapagal Arroyo on Monday, but refused to elaborate. However, in his speech yesterday, he pointed to poverty alleviation and development as the only ways to deprive insurgency of its "allure."

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said he saw no contradiction in talking peace while fighting. "We continue to enforce the law," he said, "but we keep the window open."*With reports from AFP, AP and Reuters*

Gloria still won't dance the Cha-cha

By D. Pazzibugan
J. Labog-Javellana
and C. Avendaño

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo is still not dancing the Charter change tune of Speaker Jose de Venecia even as the Speaker yesterday claimed that "more and more senators" were supporting constitutional amendments by way of a constituent assembly.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said the President simply believes that amending the Constitution should not be a priority at this time when "there are other concerns that have to be addressed . . . other priorities that should be given attention."

Senate

Bunye said the President was counting on the Senate to stop De Venecia's "Cha-cha express."

"We know it takes two to make this happen . . . If the Senate will not approve of the manner in which (the Constitution) is being proposed to be amen-ded, we don't see much progress along this line," Bunye said.

De Venecia, who claimed earlier that the Charter could be amended by November to change the system of government from a presidential to a parliamentary system, said the two chambers were closer to agreeing to convene a constituent assembly after he met with senators yesterday.

Magic number

"The magic number is about to be reached," said De Venecia even if only four senators—Edgardo Angara, Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Vicente Sotto III and Robert Barbers—showed up for the luncheon meeting at the Mandarin hotel in Makati.

"We agreed that we are moving towards developing a consensus for a constituent assembly but our most important agreement is that there will definitely be elections in 2004 and there will be no extension of the terms (of the incumbent officials)," De Venecia said after the meeting.

He said the senators agreed that it was time to shift to a parliamentary and federal form of government with a unicameral legislature.

Most senators reportedly disagree with De Venecia's preferred mode of amending the Charter through a constituent assembly.

But a House official has claimed that 10 senators were already in favor of a constituent assembly, two votes short of the number needed to approve a resolution filed by Angara and Barbers.

House

The House earlier approved the resolution proposing that the Congress constitute itself into a constituent assembly.

Angara said after yesterday's meeting that no agreement was concluded on the mode of effecting the amendments.

Angara, who chairs the Senate committee on constitutional amendments, said the 14-member committee was divided on whether to go for a constituent assembly or a constitutional convention.

"Half-half, it could either go for Con-con or Con-ass," he said in a phone interview.

But Senate President Franklin Drilon noted that "if there is no majority (in the committee), there is no committee report."

He said that as far as he was concerned, he was not changing his position favoring a constitutional convention.

Drilon is one of 14 senators who signed a resolution calling for a constitutional convention to amend the Constitution. That resolution still stands, he said.

Masaya ka ba sa iyong trabaho?

There's a career in here.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB MARKET
www.jobmarketonline.com

SLIGHTLY USED LAPTOPS & Digital Cameras FROM JAPAN
Php 7,000 - Php 33,000
Php 3,500 - Php 6,500
TOSHIBA*SHARP*FUJITSU...
CANON*KODAK*FUJIFILM...
OTHER BRANDS AVAILABLE!!!
ALSO AVAILABLE: LCD PROJECTOR
WE ALSO BUY USED LAPTOPS!!!
PLS. VISIT US AT:
Unit 2303 23/F Antel Global Corporate Center
#3 Doña Julia Vargas Ave. Ortigas Center Pasig City
Tel. No.: 687-1024 / 687-6507

MULAN 木蘭旅行社 TRAVEL SERVICE CORP.
Immigration Cases and all types of Documentation
3-4 days Guam $409.00/ 448.00
3-4 days Honululu $798.00/ 838.00
Rotary Brisbane Convention Packages
9 days West Coast Package $1,288.00
7 days Canadian Rockies $1,268.00
Domestic Packages via PAL Available Also
3n3d Brunei (every Thursday) $318.00
525 NUEVA ST., BINONDO MANILA. Tel. 244-9690, 245-4658, 309-1758
Tel /Fax. 244-9692. mulantravel@yahoo.com

HAVE A SMASHING SUMMER!
BIG DISCOUNT PACKAGES
Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS
and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
- SCP The Success & Confidence Building Program
- CP 1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
- CP 2 On Grammar & Conversational English
- CP 3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
- WP 1 On Business & Technical Writing
- WP 2 On Feature & Creative Writing
- JCP On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension for kids
PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE!
MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1048 TO 49
ALABANG - 850-5607 / 850-4860

100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
* Big Summer Sale!
P14,999. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3830 For Personal / Office Use
BRAND NEW! POWDER TYPE RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS P49,900. ONLY
P30,500. ONLY BRAND NEW! FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
LIQUID TYPE Savin 780 FOR BUSINESS Lowest Cost Copy P18,000. ONLY
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!
* GOOD TILL MAY 31, 2003
COPYTRADE
Copytrade Bldg. 550 Mf Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
• Lease To Own/ Rental Call 734 0031
• Ringbinders / Cutters Gestetner / Blueprint Machines, Riso, Etc.

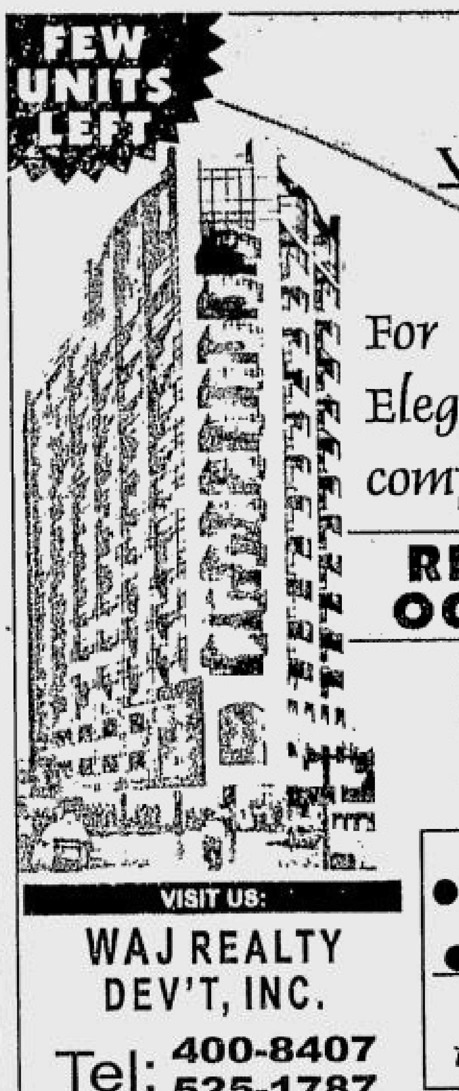
HOMEMADE FOODSTUFF
CALL: 410-4521
929-9598 • 928-2785
926-6031 • 9266029
415-3841 • 410-7228
FREE DELIVERY
FIESTA ESPESYAL 8 courses For 20 persons P2,575 only
CHICKEN RELLENO [Net wt. 1.2kg. cooked] boneless & makes about 25 slices • BEEF CALDERETA [2kg. beef] thick spicy sauce • EMBOTIDO GRANDE [1ft x 2 ½" ...] makes 40 small slices or 20 big slices • BAKED MACARONI [Net wt. 2kg.] meaty and cheesy • CHOPPED CHICKEN IN GREENPEAS and QUAIL EGGS [2kg. chicken] • FRUIT SALAD [Net wt. 2.0 kg.] special and creamy with peaches, grapes, and lychees
PULUTAN ESPESYAL 4 courses For 20 persons P1,850 only
PULUTAN GRANDE 5 courses For 20 persons P2,200 only
FIESTA ROYALE 8 courses For 25 persons P3,450 only
FIESTA PILIPINO 6 courses For 20 persons P2,800 only
FIESTA GRANDE 6 courses For 20 persons P2,825 only
FIESTA TROPICANA 8 courses For 20 persons P3,260 only
HOLIDAY SPECIAL 10 courses For 35 persons P6,325 only
BUFFET DE LUXE 6 courses For 35 persons P5,675 only
CCME HOMEMADE FOODSTUFF CO. 111 Dr Lazcano St., Q.C

SW MOTORS
3 DAY MEGA SALE!!
362-1606 • 361-8262

OFFICE CLUB.com THE NEW WAY TO OFFICE www.officeclub.com.ph
COMPLETE SCHOOL / OFFICE SUPPLIES, OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT
BANQUET TABLE P 1,000.00
STEEL STORAGE CABINET P 4,995.00
COMPUTER GAS LIFT P 985.00
BANKERS COPY SHORT P 120.00
4 DRAWERS W/ METAL SWING P 5,995.00
MEETING TABLE from P 2,150.00
SOD P 3,650.00
JUMBO CASH BOX P 985.00
DESKTOP WATER DISPENSER P 2,995.00
STUDENT COMPUTER TABLE P 1,950.00
COLOR INK JET PAPER P 340.00
DATER STAMP PAID FAX RECIEVED P 30.00
GUN SAFE P 7,500.00
LOBBY CHAIR P 1,865.00
COFFEE TABLE from P 3,150.00
MANILA 344 Nueva St. Binondo Manila Tel No 244-7211 up to 15 Fax No 243-1675 E-Mail Add sales@officeclub.com.ph
MAKATI 814 A Arnaiz Ave. Makati City Tel No 752 8378 up to 81 Fax No 752 8378 E-Mail Add oc_makati@yahoo.com
SAN JUAN 55 Annapolis St. Greenhills San Juan Metro Manila Tel No. 724-7262 / 724-7686

KATSUNO ICE MAKER & ICE CRUSHER
Advance Technology ICE Maker
KD Series Combined AIR & WATER Cooling System
Special Features:
Heat exchange by air & water •
Efficient production •
Automatically regulates temperature •
Lesser energy consumption •
Maintenance free operation •
SYI-168 Automatic
KS-168 Semi-Automatic
SUNNY BRAND High Performance Commercial Blender
ICE Crusher
Exclusively Distributed by:
merit Stainless Steel, Inc.
Pascor Compd. E. Amang Rodriguez Jr. Ave. Manggahan Pasig City
Tel. nos.: 640-3270 • 6403278
CEBU: Roost / 346-8221 to 23 • 346-7107
DAVAO: Truscon / 222-1095 • 227-9804

U.S. IMMIGRATION
If your father or mother is a U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident:
- And you turned 21 when they migrated to the U.S. so you could not join them
- Or a parent filed a petition for you when he/she was not yet a U.S. citizen, but the petition was delayed because he/she became a U.S. citizen
- Or a petition was filed for you, but you turned 21 and the processing was delayed preventing you from migrating sooner
Now CSPA, an important new immigration law enables you to migrate to the U.S. immediately.
Have your US relative contact us. We provide immigration (immigrant & working visas, extensions of stay, investors, adopted children, etc.) and other legal services (injuries, airplane crashes, wrongful deaths, etc.) outside and inside the U.S. We are among a few lawyers in the United States officially certified as U.S. Immigration Law Experts/Specialists by the State Bar of California and our legal fees are fair and reasonable.
For over 25 years, we have championed the cause of Immigrants
LAW OFFICES OF TED LAGUATAN AND ASSOCIATES
The Largest Fil-Am Practice in the U.S.
388 Market St., Ste. 400 San Francisco, CA 94111 (415) 495-8749 Fax: (650) 991-1186
6674 Mission St. Daly City, CA 94015 (650) 991-1154
SAVE THIS AD



FEW UNITS LEFT
VELLAGIO TOWER
For Elegance and comfort living
READY FOR OCCUPANCY
NO RESERVATION FEE
NO DOWNPAYMENT
For as low as P1.4 M
Harrison Plaza · La Salle · Quirino Ave. · San Andres · PGH · NBI · MCDO · Taft Ave · L. Guinto
Model Units Available for Viewing
VISIT US:
WAJ REALTY DEV'T, INC.
Tel: 400-8407 525-1787
HLURB License to Sell #04889

$30-M package in the bag for GMA's US visit

By Norman Bordadora

WHEN she comes home after her top-level tete-a-tete with United States President George W. Bush, among the goodies in President Macapagal-Arroyo's bag will be the Philippines $30 million share in the US foreign military finance (FMF).

This is a "done deal," according to Ambassador to Washington Albert del Rosario.

Ms Macapagal's state visit to the United States will push through this month, although it will be shorter than originally planned.

Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye yesterday confirmed that the visit, first scheduled April 1-5, had been reset to May 19-21. The President called off the trip as early as March 13 due to the impending United States attack on Iraq.

Bunye was asked over Radyo ng Bayan yesterday to confirm a White House statement confirming the new schedule. He said the dates had been jointly agreed upon.

In an interview at the INQUIRER offices, Del Rosario explained that the FMF share, intended for the country's counterterrorism campaign, was part of the supplemental budget for the US war on Iraq. He said it would soon be released to the Armed Forces, on top of a $30 million grant under the US economic support fund (ESF).

Del Rosario said both $30-million packages were the results of the Philippines' moral and political support to the US-led coalition against Iraq.

Bunye did not say why the state visit had been cut to just three days, but he noted that Ms Macapagal was one of the "very few" world leaders invited to Washington this year.

With Dona Pazzibugan

Be ready to die in Iraq, RP cops told

By C. Esguerra

BE READY to die.

The Filipino humanitarian and peacekeeping contingent to Iraq should not only settle for a measly salary but also brace for the possibility of death, said Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, Armed Forces vice chief of staff.

Garcia warned that injury or death was an "accepted risk" for the mission when he was placed on the hot seat in yesterday's Bulung Pulungan forum at the Westin Philippine Plaza in Pasay.

But he failed to note that the team would include doctors and nurses who would tend to war victims.

Asked if the government could collect for damages from the US-led coalition should there be casualties, the official replied: "Soldiers go to conflict... like people in Mindanao are dying for honor and they would in Iraq."

"We don't want casualties... (But) we accept that there'll be casualties. That is a fact," he added.

The Macapagal administration is set to send a 500-man mission to Iraq next month. The AFP had earlier bared that each of the troops stands to get a paltry daily salary of $3.50 (or roughly P192).

Garcia could not give any assurance that anybody could be held liable in case a member of the mission gets hurt or killed. He also could not tell if the US or Britain would pay for damages.

The Department of Foreign Affairs, he said, is currently negotiating a Status of Forces Agreement with Qatar and Kuwait. The agreement would cover the conduct of Filipino troops in these countries when they stay there on their way to Iraq, he added.

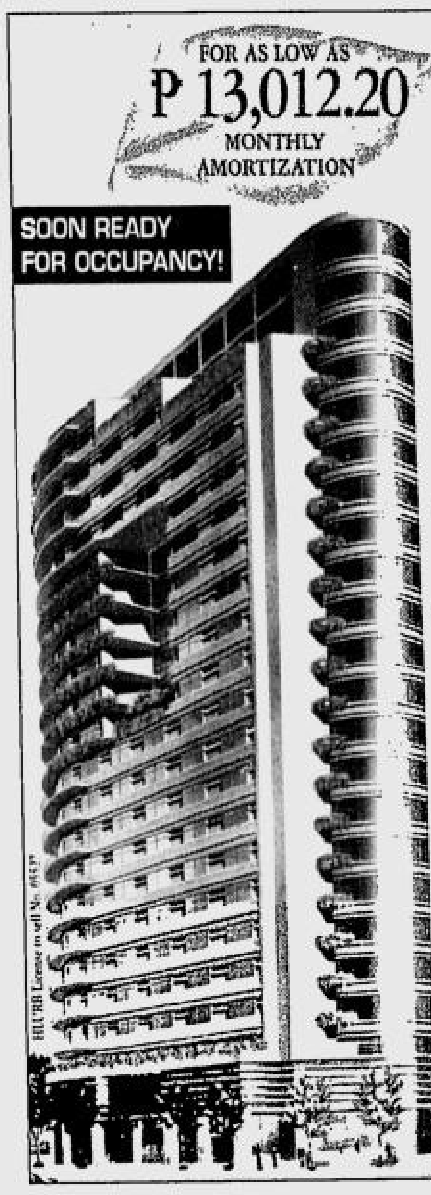
But once the team holds actual peacekeeping and humanitarian mission in war-torn Iraq, the AFP official could not say if there would be any similar agreement or policy that could cover its conduct there.

DLI GENERICS
SINCE 1986
Quality na gamot, sa presyong mas abot!!!
Suggested Retail Price April 8, 2003

Analgesic/Antipyretic (Para sa kirot, lagnat o trangkaso)	DLI		Leading Brand	Savings
Mefenamic Acid susp. 50 mg/5 ml 60 ml	✓	25.00	104.00	79.00/bot
Mefenamic Acid tab. 500 mg	✓	1.80	19.70	17.90/tab
Paracetamol syrup 125 mg/5 ml 60 ml	✓	21.00	63.50	42.50/bot
Paracetamol tab 500 mg	✓	0.75	2.35	1.60/tab
Antiobiotic (Kontra-Bakterya)				
Amoxicillin cap. 250 mg	✓	3.10	8.95	5.85/cap
Amoxicillin cap. 500 mg	✓	3.70	15.50	11.80/cap
Amoxicillin drops 125 mg/1.25 ml/10 ml	✓	37.00	80.75	43.75/bot
Amoxicillin susp. 250 mg/5 ml, 60 ml	✓	49.00	144.00	95.00/bot
Chloramphenicol cap. 500 mg	✓	3.40	37.75	34.35/cap
Chloramphenicol susp. 125 mg/5 ml 60 ml	✓	41.40	394.75	353.35/bot
Co-trimoxazole tab (TM-160mg SMZ-800mg)	✓	2.30	24.00	21.70/tab
Co-trimoxazole cap. (TM-80mg SMZ-400mg)	✓	2.60	13.50	10.90/cap
Co-trimoxazole susp. (TM-40mg SMZ-200mg)	✓	25.00	115.75	90.75/bot
Anti-cough (Para sa Ubo)				
Bromhexine HCL syrup 4 mg/5 ml, 60 ml	✓	26.70	71.75	45.05/bot
Carbocisteine cap. 500 mg	✓	2.40	12.30	9.90/cap
Carbocisteine susp. 100 mg/5 ml. 60 ml	✓	32.70	87.25	54.55/bot

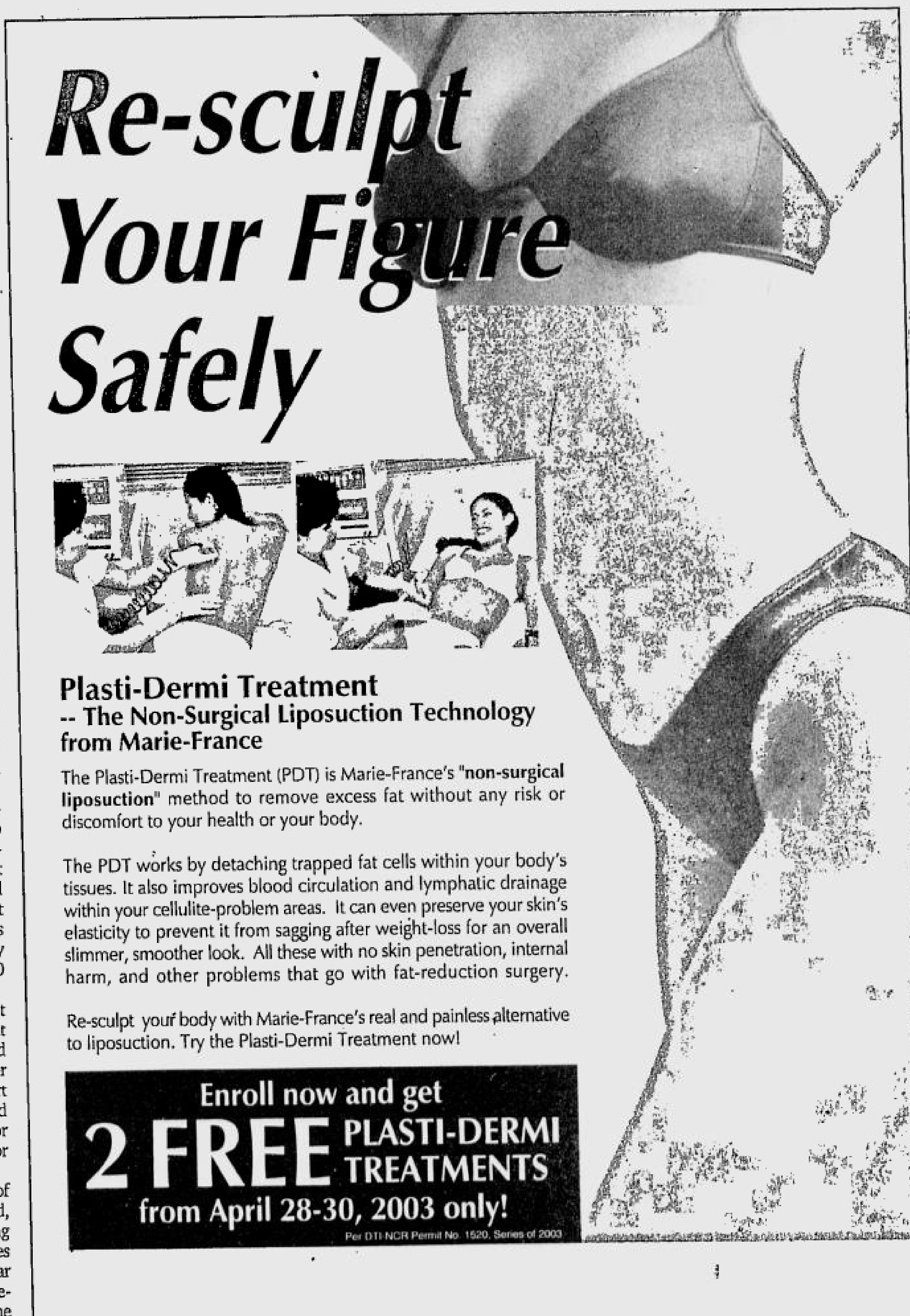
Save as much as 80%
Available at:
EMILENE PHARMACY, INC. Carlos SuperDrug Z.C. UNITED PHARMACY Rose Pharmacy, Inc.
Generics Distribution Center & all factory-priced drugstores!
Tel #s: 711-3933, 712-4990, 741-9203 | Visit: www.DLI-Generics.com for complete product & price information

ATTN: CAR WASHER • JANITORIAL SERVICE • GAS STATIONS • POULTRIES • SHIPYARDS • HOTELS • RESTAURANTS • INDUSTRIAL FACTORIES • CONFECTIONERIES
Best Brands Of High Pressure Cleaners
For Various Requirements!
FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
Sector TRX Pro Kart
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos
Exclusively Distributed By:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INC.
MAIN OFFICE:1651 M.Oresa St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240539 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES:
646 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709
162 Del Monte Ave. Nr. Cor. Roosevelt Ave.
Tel. 4101086 • 3724429


FOR AS LOW AS P 13,012.20 MONTHLY AMORTIZATION
SOON READY FOR OCCUPANCY!
The Garden Heights
23-storey office/ residential condominium
E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave.
Quezon City
- Close to St. Luke's Medical Center, Trinity College and other key business establishments
- Highly Affordable
  - 15-year financing scheme
  - "No downpayment" plan available

CONSTRUCTION IN FULL SWING.
OWNER / DEVELOPER
EB Premium Properties Corp.
Call now for viewing appointment and inquiries
Authorized Marketing Arms:
ASB REALTY CORP. 892-6764 892-6783
PRHC Property Managers, Inc. 636-6596 636-6599
BROKERS / AGENTS ARE WELCOME.

IWATA TIME RECORDERS
DURABLE & RELIABLE ALMOST 20 YEARS IN THE MARKET NOW
6 columns time card / With Digital & Analog Clock Display (CH-1A) / Back-up Battery for brown-outs Reserved Memory Wide Clock Display / Melody Chimes & Buzzer (CW-1A) Mark Printing for Late & OT (CH-1A) Digital Display of Date & Day (CH-1A)
CH-1A P9,300
CW-1A P12,850
OVERHEAD PROJECTOR P6,990 3-ELEMENTS Lens for sharper & Clearer Projection
RECHARGEABLE SPOTLIGHT 250,000 C.P. P 999. 500,000 C.P. P1,200. 1 MILLION C.P. P1,850.
HAND DRYER TEW BRAND PUSH BUTTON P3,950(S) P5,300 AUTOMATIC P6,200 P4,650(NB)
IWATA INDUSTRIAL FAN HEAVY DUTY 3 STEEL BLADES 30" Diameter P3,890
SEALERS LAMINATORS
Other sizes sealer available 14" FOOT SEALER P8,900
IMPULSE & DIRECT HEAT SEALERS 8" HAND SEALER P1,100
CROWN 6.3" P2,800 6" - P4,450 / 8" - P5,600
Sole Distributor
COLENT ENTERPRISE CO. Various models available to suit your needs
Suite 200 Del Monte Mansion Bldg., Del Monte Avenue cor Speaker Perez St., Quezon City
TELS. 740-3815, 411-7157, 411-2396 to 98, 414-9890, 742-8139, 412-4317 Fax 411-2399


Re-sculpt Your Figure Safely
Plasti-Dermi Treatment
-- The Non-Surgical Liposuction Technology from Marie-France
The Plasti-Dermi Treatment (PDT) is Marie-France's "non-surgical liposuction" method to remove excess fat without any risk or discomfort to your health or your body.
The PDT works by detaching trapped fat cells within your body's tissues. It also improves blood circulation and lymphatic drainage within your cellulite-problem areas. It can even preserve your skin's elasticity to prevent it from sagging after weight-loss for an overall slimmer, smoother look. All these with no skin penetration, internal harm, and other problems that go with fat-reduction surgery.
Re-sculpt your body with Marie-France's real and painless alternative to liposuction. Try the Plasti-Dermi Treatment now!
Enroll now and get 2 FREE PLASTI-DERMI TREATMENTS from April 28-30, 2003 only!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1520, Series of 2003
Uncover Your Curves
Marie France Bodyline International®
NOW OPEN
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Consultations are done in private and kept confidential. All treatments are done in hygienic and private cubicles and handled professionally by trained nurses under the medical supervision of our doctors.

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	TIMOG	BINONDO	ALABANG	SHAW	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1262	687-1216	372-6635	242-2199	809-9619	534-5898	920-8021	961-2981/91	233-7637
815-2052	687-1218	372-6636	243-8230	850-4574	534-5877	920-8047	860-6921/22	233-7639
819-3340	638-3028	410-3723 • 410-3724	242-3299 • 242-2399	842-4633 • 842-6887	717-0071 • 717-0072	920-7675		233-7641

NO EXERCISE MACHINES • NO WORKOUT CLASSES • NO PILLS OR INJECTIONS • NO HUNGER PAINS • NO MEDICATIONS • NO SURGERY

'Tay, ang puso mo!
☑ Are you 40 years old or older?
☒ Do you exercise everyday?
☒ Do you eat a balanced diet?
☑ Is your waist getting bigger?
Maybe you should start taking COR-30 everyday?
Helps prevent Heart Attack!
Aspirin has been proven to help prevent heart attack. It helps reduce the number of *"bad prostaglandins"* in the blood. *"Bad prostaglandins"* are the reason why blood clots occur. These blood clots could help trigger a heart attack.
Less "side effects"
There are people who experience "side effects" like ulcer when taking aspirin. COR-30 is the "lowest dose" aspirin. Because of this, you can experience less or even no aspirin induced "side effects". However, being "low dose" does not necessarily mean "low efficacy". This does not diminish its ability to lessen *"bad prostaglandins"* in the blood and help protect you against heart attack.
COR-30 is made specially for the heart!
Heart ailments are expensive to treat! You are not the only one who will suffer but also your whole family. Help prevent it from happening by taking COR-30 everyday. Because of its very affordable price and effect on your body, it was made specially for you! Take one COR-30 everyday for your peace of mind against heart attack.
For more information, please call the COR-30 Hotline: 920-1911
Consult your doctor.
30 milligrams ASPIRIN COR-30
Low-dose Aspirin.
Made specially for the heart!
Pascual Laboratories, Inc. 817 EDSA, Sa. Triangle D.C.
Source: *New England Journal of Medicine*

Masaya ka ba sa iyong trabaho?
There's a career in here.
JOB MARKET

I didn't ask for the job, says new DPWH boss

By Blanche S. Rivera

STUNG by criticisms, newly appointed Public Works Secretary Florante Soriquez said yesterday that he was willing to give up his post if the President finds a replacement for him.

Soriquez said he had not lobbied for the leadership of the Department of Public Works and Highways but merely "accepted what was offered" when he was called to Malacañang on Friday.

"I would gladly relinquish (my post) if the President finds someone else to take over the department in the next few months," Soriquez said in an interview yesterday, a day after he was sworn into office.

Soriquez said that he was "surprised" by the opposition from congressmen who were not even knowledgeable of the controversial Megadike project.

"The congressmen from Central Luzon are not complaining. They have nothing against me. How come these congressmen from Visayas and Mindanao are the ones who want me out?" he said.

There are two pending legal proceedings involving Soriquez, one pending in the Supreme Court and another in the Office of the Ombudsman concerning the multibillion-peso Megadike project.

Soriquez said that he did not expect to be appointed because the top DPWH post was first offered to former Undersecretary Ted Encarnacion, and later to Undersecretary Manuel Bonoan, the most senior career official.

Soriquez said that he did not intend to stay long at his new post and that he would slide back to being Undersecretary for Operations if and when the President finds a permanent secretary or in 2004 when the President's term expires.

He, however, expressed confidence that he had enough expertise to handle the DPWH despite his lack of preparation for the top post.

Soriquez, 60, has served the department for 41 years, starting as a laborer for the construction of the Manila International Airport driveway and later holding district posts when he became an engineer.

He was appointed DPWH assistant secretary in 2001 and Undersecretary in January this year.

Soriquez said that he wanted to fast-track ongoing projects nationwide. He has already ordered an inventory of projects to see if they were moving according to schedule.

He also said that he would continue the policies of outgoing Public Works Secretary and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chair Bayani Fernando on the nationwide clearing of sidewalks and proper engineering to eliminate opportunities for corruption.

PEREZ

Perez may yet be back

By Dona Pazzibugan

AFTER initially denying it, presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye hinted yesterday that ex-justice Secretary Hernando Perez may yet be reappointed to the Cabinet.

In his regular news briefing, Bunye denied rumors that Perez would replace Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza.

"I don't think so, because Secretary Mendoza is not moving from his position," Bunye insisted.

But when asked if Perez is returning to the Cabinet in any capacity, Bunye was less categorical.

"Ah we, we don't know," he said after a moment's pause.

"As far as the present Cabinet members are concerned, there's every indication that they're staying put in their respective places," he added.

The other day Bunye played down rumors that a Cabinet reshuffle is in the works.

Talks have it that Perez would replace Mendoza, who in turn would replace Interior Secretary Joey Lina.

Lina, according to the rumors, will take over as public works secretary following Bayani Fernando's resignation.

Fernando gave up the DPWH portfolio in favor of his post as Metro Manila Development Authority chair.

Public officials are banned from holding dual positions.

Bunye said the President herself has denied that Lina, Mendoza or any other Cabinet official would be sacked.

Services Provided by Amerika, Atbp. & the Immigrant Visa Center

Visa Questions?

Get Your Answers, 7 Days a Week.

1-909-VISA-INFO / 1-909-8472-4636

Why travel? Just call on any PLDT phone w/NDD.

Currently for U.S. Visas and Immigration Matters only. Call is P18/min.

Join now!
HARTMANN
Comfort: It's only Natural!!
RAFFLE PROMO
COTTON USA
500

For a minimum purchase of only P150.00 worth of HARTMANN undergarments, you are entitled to one raffle coupon!

HOW TO JOIN

1. For every P150.00 worth of Hartmann products in a single receipt (no rounding off) entitles a customer to one raffle coupon.
2. Customer should present their RECEIPT to Hartmann promo girl / promodizer to claim a raffle coupon.
3. An entry should contain customer's name, address, telephone number, signature affixed, name of store and drop it at designated drop boxes located near the product display at the department store where the purchase was made.
4. This promo is valid in Greater Manila Area, Central, Northern, and Southern Luzon, Central, Eastern, and Western Visayas from February 28, 2003 to May 18, 2003. Only entries dropped in drop boxes until May 18, 2003 qualifies for the draw. Draw date is on May 31, 2003, 3:00 pm at the SM Megamall Activity Center, Mandaluyong City.
5. A DTI representative will be invited during the draw.
6. The more entries, the more chances of winning. A customer can win more than once in the raffle.
7. Winners will be notified through registered mail.
8. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash or kind.
9. Winners must present at least 2 (two) valid ID's with registered notice and other half of the coupon when claiming their prize. A representative may be sent, provided he/she brings all the requirements together with valid ID's and an authorization letter from the winner.
10. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notice shall be forfeited with prior approval of DTI.
11. GMA winners must claim their prizes at Mansfield International, Inc., 2/F Arete Square, Congressional Ave., Project 8, Quezon City. Prizes of provincial winners will be delivered via courier. Consolation prizes will be delivered to winners.
12. Employees of Mansfield, its affiliates and ad agency, Cotton USA, printing company, participating dept. stores, including their relatives to second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining.

MAJOR PRIZES

2 Winners of Sony DVD Player with 5.1 Speakers
2 Winners of Sony V8 Handy Cam
4 Winners of Nokia 7650 (Units Only)

CONSOLATION PRIZES

5 Winners of Giorgio Armani Shades
5 Winners of The P.U.B Gift Certificate woth P1,000.00 (Valid one year from date of issue)
10 Winners of HARTMANN Gift Packs worth P500.00

HARTMANN
MADE FOR COMFORT.
TANK TOPS • SHIRTS
UNDERWEAR • SUPPORTERS

In Cooperation With
96.3 WRocK

PER DTI - NCR Permit No. 0386, Series of 2003

".Prevention is worth a pound of cure"

CONFORMS TO THE CLEAN AIR ACT OF 1999!

PROVEN
- Non-Toxic
- Non-Irritating
- Environment friendly!

WITH EVIDENCE TEST:
- ✓ Sterilizing / Soaking Solution
- ✓ High-level surface disinfectant
- ✓ Sanitizer / Deodorizer
- ✓ Friendly Environmental Spray

NO MATTER WHAT OTHERS SAY!
NAIA, RITM.
DOH-CHD REGION1
is using-
MD/SDS
To combat
SARS!

PRODUCED BY:
HENKEL PHILS.INC.
ISO 9002 QUALITY
STANDARDS&CONTROL
BFAD REGISTERED

SANITATION CONCEPTS INCORPORATED
#44 Topaz St. DJS, Pasig City
PHILS. 1600
Tel.No:641-0067 Fax:642-0101
E-mail:
scimla@tri-isys.com

ALBAY (052)8247524/(0916)20036
CAGAYAN(0888)565410/(0918)5232502
DAVAO (0822)993612/(0916)7021803
METRO MANILA
4114448/(0917)5390575
8742282/(0917)5210173
6422684 / 6422244

Eagle 5000
Living Air Classic
Electronic Particulate Ionizer (EPI)
Flair
Living Air Refresh
Blaster

BE S.A.R.S. FREE!

Now, you can breathe a lot easier,

The Best Solution?! Pure, clean air free from harmful bacteria & viruses with A-plus Air Purifier.

The World's Best Selling Air Purifier

No filter replacements and no after cost.
Competitively priced and wider coverage area.
Superior features and easy to install.
Consume only 30 watts of electricity
Multiple uses.
These portable machine will take care of your home, office, restaurant, bar, kitchen, bathroom, closets, shoes, mattresses, dens and cars too. Applications are practically endless

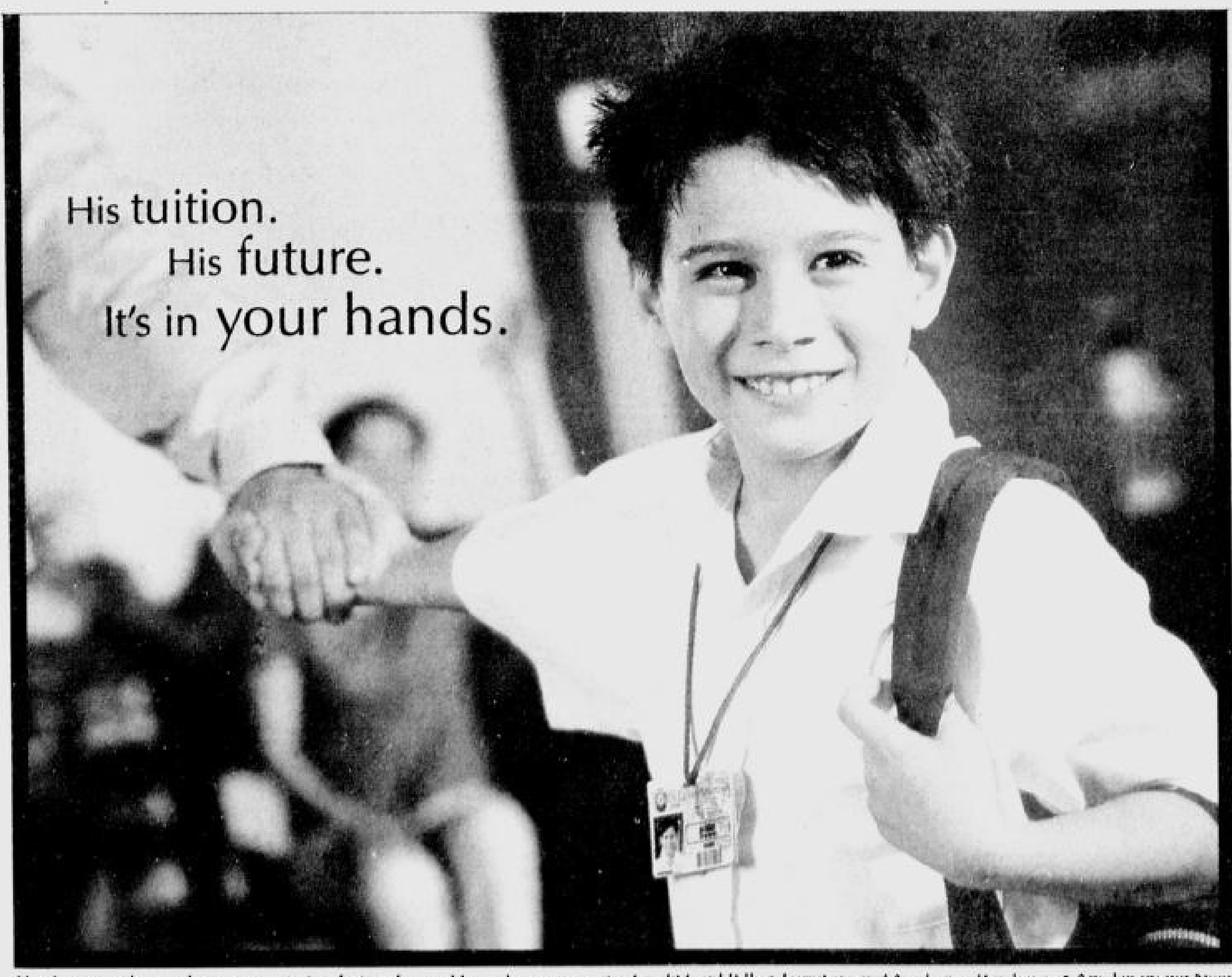
Used by PENTAGON after 9-11 attack to remove smoke & foul odor

*Other models are also available

Kills 99.99% of most airborne bacteria

"The Principal way S.A.R.S. appears to be spread is through droplet transmission; namely when someone sick with S.A.R.S. coughs or sneezes droplets into the air and someone else breathes them in."
-US Government Guide (website)

Made in USA
Suite 9, Y-Square Bldg., Mayapis cor. Malugay St., Makati City Tel. nos.: 812-0040 • 894-4419 Telefax: 893-8797



His tuition.
His future.
It's in your hands.

Flexiloan may be used for payment of: • Tuition Fees • Home Improvement • Credit Card Bills • Furniture and Appliance Purchases • Any Financing Need

PSB Flexiloan

Keep your options open.

- Maximum loanable amount: P250,000.00
- Fixed low rate of 1.5%* per month
- Easy payment terms: 12, 18, 24, or 36 mos.

NO COLLATERAL REQUIRED.

Open to all regular employees with at least (1) year work tenure.
*10% VAT will be imposed on all interest payments.

Apply now: 885-8228/885-8249/885-8250
or visit any PSBank branch nearest you.

PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY

Working harder for you.

PSBank Center, 777 Paseo de Roxas cor. Sedeño St., Makati City

May 1 'rabble-rousers' warned

By Carlito Pablo and Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

MALACAÑANG yesterday warned what it called "rabble-rousers" against attempting to create mayhem on Thursday, Labor Day, which also marks the second anniversary of the bloody May 1, 2001 uprising of supporters of jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada.

"Our authorities are there and we are prepared for those who will make trouble on Labor Day," Presidential Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said in a dzRB radio interview.

Police commands in six regions outside Metro Manila have been ordered to augment the troops of the Super Task Force Kapayapaan, the police body formed to handle the rallies in the capital on May 1.

The contingency plan, which will involve the police commands of Central Luzon, Southern Tagalog, Ilocos, Cordillera, Cagayan and Bicol regions, was contained in Letter of Instruction No. 17 issued by Philippine National Police chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr.

According to the LOI, this kind of deployment was expected when the "peace and order situation worsens as mass actions escalate to a level of uncontrollable magnitude."

While the order planned for a worst-case scenario, Ebdane said participants in the Labor Day rallies on Thursday were "not on the scale" of the May 1, 2001 violent protests in which pro-Estrada supporters tried to storm Malacañang.

"Perhaps, it's not even one-tenth (of the protesters who joined the May 1 siege)," Ebdane said. "The people have learned their lesson. Most of them do not want to participate anymore."

The National Capital Region Police Office yesterday placed its members on heightened alert and has started deploying some in critical areas in Metro Manila in preparation for tomorrow's rallies.

Chief Supt. Enrique Galang, acting director for operations, said members of the civil disturbance management (CDM) unit have been instructed to watch out for saboteurs during the rallies who might carry out "terrorist and atrocious acts."

He said police officials would be conferring with militant leaders to "reach a common understanding in ensuring a peaceful, orderly and safe Labor Day."

Bunye appealed to those planning demonstrations on May 1 to let the government use the day to pay tribute to the "great Filipino worker."

"The idea really is to honor the true and genuine laborer," Bunye said as he noted that some parties were intending to use the rallies to "push the political agenda of certain people."

In another interview over dzRH radio, Bunye trashed former senator Juan Ponce Enrile who claimed that the government had allegedly hatched a plot to cause turmoil on Thursday and pin the blame on the opposition.

"Look who's talking," said Bunye, recalling that Enrile faked his own ambush in 1972 as part of the plan of the dictator Ferdinand Marcos to impose martial law.

"We believe that people don't have short memories. We know that he (Enrile) himself spread the canard of false ambushes and he's really adept at such practices," Bunye said. *With a report from TJ Burgonio*

OPEN HOUSE
Tagaytay Hot Summer Treats

Date:
May 03,2003
Time:
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.
Join us & have fun!
Discounts & surprises await you...
See you there!

TAGAYTAY
EXECUTIVE VILLAGE

- 1 min. drive from Rotunda
- Back of McDonald & Olivarez Plaza

Own a lot for as low as P10,120/mo.
No downpayment scheme also available

CITYLAND 812-2222•243-6565•818-8888•241-1894•(0919) 310-8553
www.cityland.net investment@cityland.net

No wage hike for Labor Day

AS he has come to expect in recent years, the Filipino worker will not be seeing—or even asking for—a wage increase on Labor Day.

The government is instead laying out free concerts and free train rides for workers and their families.

Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri said the business environment at present makes it difficult to ask for higher wages, given the low demand and the already high wages of Filipino workers in comparison with those of laborers from other countries in the region.

A statement from the labor department last Monday all but confirmed that there would be no announcement of a mandated wage increase order on Thursday.

Labor Undersecretary Josephus Jimenez also said the department has not received any petition for a wage hike.

"I think labor has realized that it is hard to search for higher wages at this time because there will always be someone out there, say in India or Vietnam, who are willing to do the same work for less pay," Neri said in an interview.

Rank No. 2

Neri cited a 2002 survey released recently by the Swiss-based Institute for Management Development which showed that Philippine labor ranked No. 2 in terms of labor costs in manufacturing among 48 other developing countries.

In terms of compensation levels, which include wages and supplementary benefits, Philippine labor also ranked high at No. 8, said Neri, the director general of the National Economic and Development Authority.

He said that although the country ranked No. 1 in terms of the availability of skilled labor here, thus making the grant of higher wages reasonable, increasing these wages further may not be called for.

"The rate of inflation is already very low anyway, so I guess there will be less pressure for a wage increase," said Neri.

In March, the rate of inflation slowed to 2.9 percent, compared to 3.1 percent in February and 3.6 percent for the same period last year, mainly because of lower increases in the prices of major food products.

Instead of agitating for a wage increase, Neri said workers should upgrade their labor skills and productivity to earn higher incomes.

"The better mind-set would be to think of increasing value creation and production because a mere increase in wages without a corresponding increase in value would be unsustainable and might force factories to close down," he said. *Michelle V. Remo*

'Bokya' for Obet

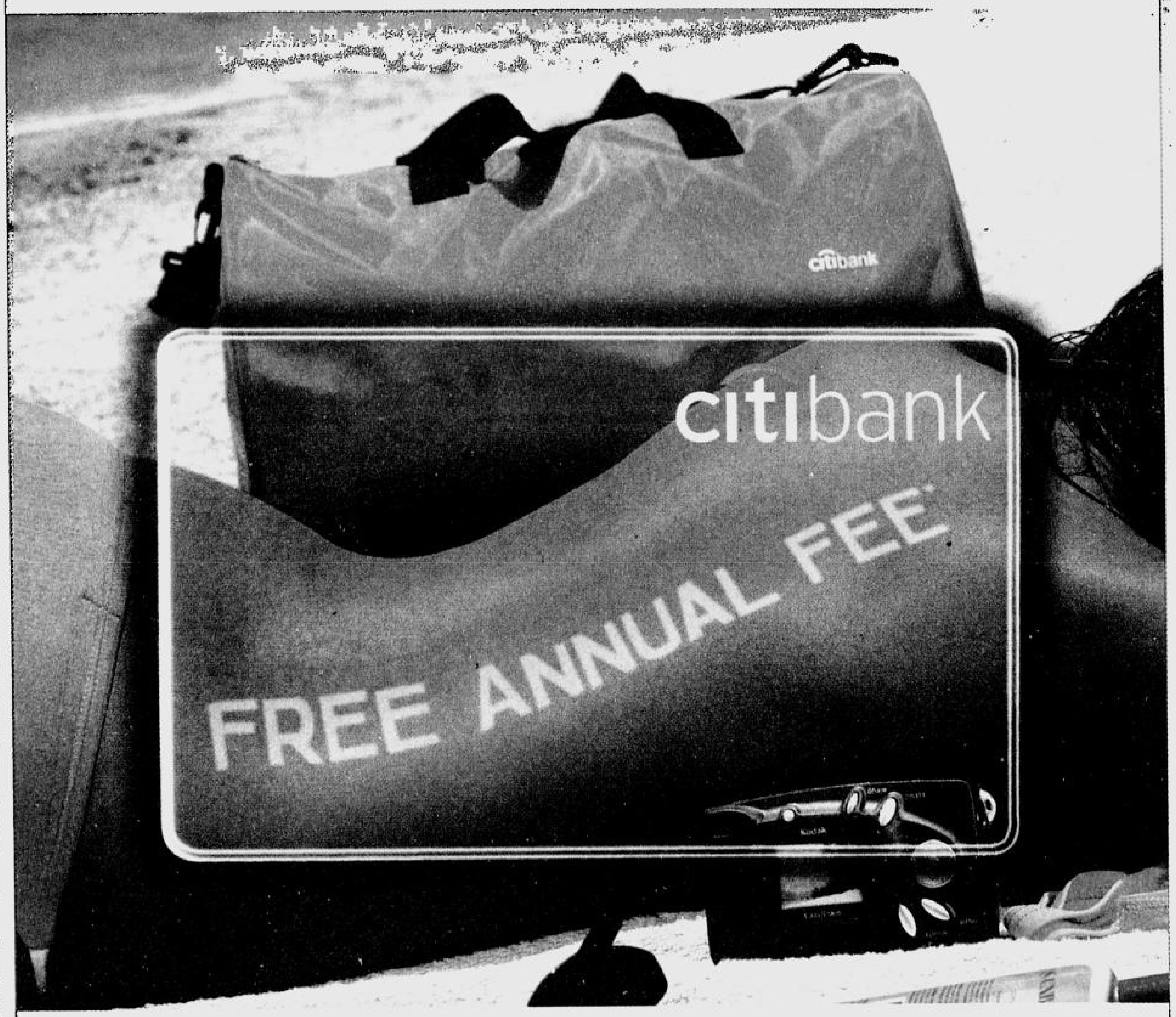
MAJOR agrarian reform groups yesterday gave Agrarian Reform Secretary Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan a grade of flat zero or "bokya" on the marking of his 100th day in office, citing his alleged failure to deliver on the promises he made more than three months ago.

The groups led by the Task Force Mapalad (TFM) and the Philippine Peasant Institute (PPI) described Pagdanganan as "a secretary who eats up his time studying issues thereby ending up having not done anything."

Jose Rodito Angeles, TFM spokesperson, said Pagdanganan spends more time shaking people's hands and kissing babies. Pagdanganan, a former Bulacan governor, is said to be running for senator despite two unsuccessful bids.

Some 150 farmers, farm workers and advocates yesterday pitched in front of the Department of Agrarian Reform hundreds of eggs with words "Obet's 100 days: Bokya sa CARP," to symbolize what they alleged as Pagdanganan's dismal performance in office.

The protesters belonged to the TFM, PPI, Kaisahan, Caret, Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahan sa Kanayunan (PKSK), People's Campaign for Agrarian Reform Network (AR Now!) Asiadharra, Pakisama, Pildharra, COIR, Samahang 53-Ektarya sa Macabud and ICSI.



It's not just a Credit Card

It's a sizzling, hot 3-in-1 offer this summer

Now is the best time to get a Citibank Credit Card. You'll enjoy its cool features, and these 3 special freebies that'll surely make a splash:

- **FREE membership for the first year***
- **FREE red-hot summer bag**
- **Get the chance to WIN a Kodak Digital Camera.**

So what are you waiting for? Apply now before the summer is over.

APPLY NOW!
Call 423-3000
www.citibank.com.ph

*See application forms for details. For Citibank Clear Card, the first 12-month membership fee is waived. Promo runs until May 31, 2003. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0831, Series of 2003.

citibank

A member of citigroup

'United opposition' picks Lacson for 2004

From page A1

contest the final nomination.

Lacson, who voted to provide "tough, no-nonsense leadership" if elected President, said the final choice would be a collective decision of the opposition.

He earlier said he was not worried that the Supreme Court's ruling on April 1 ordering the reopening of the Kuratong Baleleng multiple-murder case against him would affect his plan to run for president.

Violation of Election Code?

Angara said members of opposition groups "appear" to have violated the Election Code when they endorsed Lacson as their standard bearer.

"They have to be careful not to violate the Election Code," Angara said. The Election Code prohibits the endorsement of a candidate before November, or six months before the elections.

He said the proclamation was attended mostly by members of the PMP and by a "sprinkling" of LDP members. "It's not LDP-sponsored," he said.

He said that the LDP was in the process of choosing its presidential candidate and that any decision made by its executive council would have to prevail.

While LDP has yet to choose its candidate, the number of party members supporting Lacson is growing bigger, according to House Minority Leader Carlos Padilla.

Estrada is still hoping that his friend, actor Fernando Poe Jr. will run for President. But his party PMP was represented in the launching by its president, ex-agrarian reform secretary Horacio "Boy" Morales; secretary general Lito Banayo; Estrada's son San Juan Mayor Joseph Victor Ejercito; and a number of congressmen.

Among those who delivered speeches were JV Ejercito, Padilla, Deputy Minority Leader Rolex Suplico, Makati Rep. Agapito "Butz" Aquino (LDP secretary general), Maguindanao Rep. Didagen Dilangalen, Cavite Representatives Gilbert Remulla and Plaridel Abaya, Laguna Gov. Ningning Lazaro, Cavite Gov. Ireneo Maliksi, Rona Ganzon, retired Justice Santiago Kapunan, Eva Estrada-Kalaw, Salvador Garbanzos of the Justice Economy Environment Peace (JEEP), Risha Molato of the Youth for Progressive Leadership and former Presidential Adviser Jamby Madrigal.

Pledge of unity

Also in attendance were San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora, Palawan Rep. Abraham Mitra and ex-Sen. Francisco "Kit" Tatad, who wrote the "pledge of unity."

A host of local politicians, sectoral leaders and supporters filled the hall while a small group rallied outside to cheer Lacson. *(See related story on page 23)*

He said Filipinos were "bereft of hope" amid the massive unemployment, widespread criminality and failure of governance.

"When I am asked what is wrong in our country, I answer with full conviction: governance is what is wrong in our country," he said.

"We must demonstrate political will through a presidency without politics and a leadership without fear, without compromise. We in the opposition, duly united, will provide that kind of tough, no-nonsense leadership," he said to the cheers of his supporters.

Enrile said there was a need to gather the "amorphous opposition" under one umbrella to avoid the humiliating defeat in 1992 when Fidel Ramos won the presidency.

He noted that the opposition still had no face because its leader, Estrada, was in jail. "For this reason we have decided to meet this morning to present the (tentative) face of the united opposition," he said.

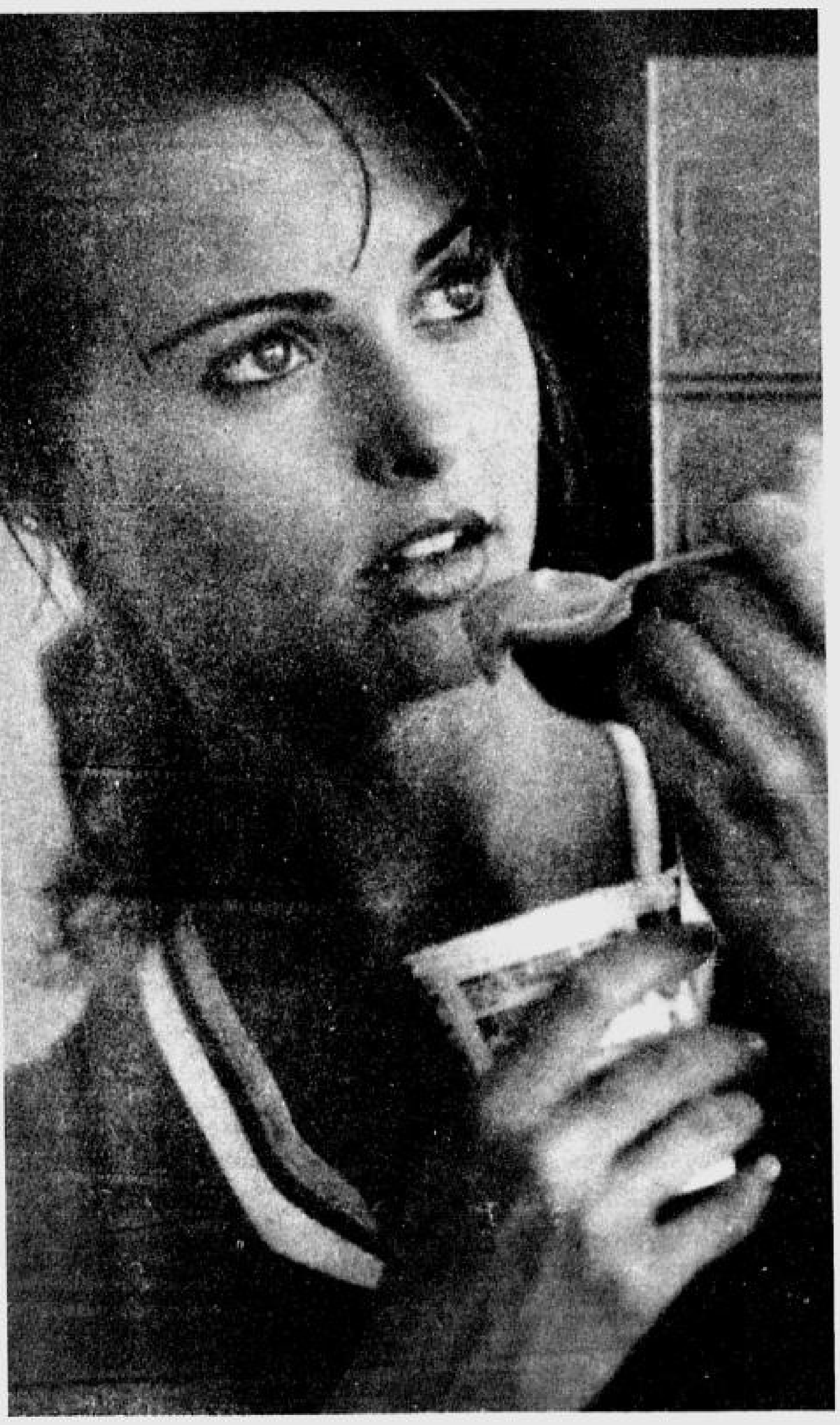
December convention

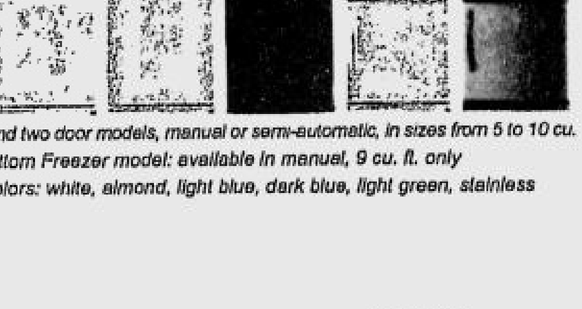
After the launching, Banayo said the final opposition standard bearer would be chosen during a convention 45 days before the start of the campaign period, or sometime in December.

Zamora said Lacson would definitely be it for the opposition. "Danding (Cojuangco) is running under the administration banner, if he runs. (As for FPJ), how long have we been waiting for him to say he will run?" the congressman said.

The LDP and PMP, as well as the KBL and other parties like Cavite's Magdalo have not officially endorsed Lacson but their leaders came yesterday to support him, according to Morales.

Asked why it was launched this early, Morales said: "Because people have been asking if Ping is serious (in running) and if the opposition will support him. The answer to both is yes."





When the Going Gets Rough, Only the Tough Keep Cooling

When it comes to durability the new Condura EBX is tough to beat because it undergoes a **12-step anti-rust metal treatment.** On top of that, we used thick industrial plastic on the door and base. That means you'll get years of reliable use out of it, no matter how rough the going gets. It's also tough to beat when it comes to your convenience -- Semi-Automatic one-touch defrost, Cold Wall Design for uniform cooling that ensures your ref is free from food smell, and Quick freezing time. Now you know why the Condura EBX is an even better choice.

Available in single and two door models, manual or semi-automatic, in sizes from 5 to 10 cu. ft.
Bottom Freezer model: available in manual, 9 cu. ft. only
Available colors: white, almond, light blue, dark blue, light green, stainless

CONDURA EBX
AN EVEN BETTER CHOICE

Customer Hotline
812-6751

306 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue,
Makati City

ELIGIBLE bachelor, John Gregory Osmena, cuts a dashing figure whether in Cebu's nightlife or on the beach in Boracay.

Uh-oh, look ...

From page A1

week, according to a police report and several eyewitness accounts.

On Friday, at the Ayala Entertainment Center, the vice governor got fuming mad and hit a man several times. The man's mistake: He said the vice governor, the son of Sen. John Henry Osmeña, was gay.

Seven days before that, on Black Saturday, the young Osmeña, who is in his early 30s and considered one of Cebu's most eligible bachelors, found himself involved in another fist fight, this time on Boracay Island. The cause: "jealousy over a lady."

On Friday, a man approached the young Osmeña inside the Brik Sports Bar and said: "They said you're gay." Osmeña immediately stood up and punched the man, identified as Jong King, several times. They were pacified by their respective friends, witnesses said.

The Cebu City police had no record of the fight. The vice governor also refused to comment on the incident. But he went on the record about the fight in Boracay.

The Black Saturday incident, which was recorded in a blotter in the Malay police station, said the fist fight was between Osmeña's group and the group of a certain Andrew Lopez, reportedly the son of former Iloilo Congressman Albertito Lopez.

The two groups exchanged punches at the Cocomangas Bar, a popular hangout near Boat Station 2 in Barangay Balabag, according to reports of the Boracay Special Police Unit (BSPU).

Citing blotter reports, PO1 Fe Rebanio of the BSPU said the brawl happened inside the bar at around 3:30 a.m. of April 19.

He said members of both groups exchanged punches, but said the report did not indicate who started the fight or how it started, except to say that it was triggered by "jealousy over a lady." The report did not identify the woman or say whether she was part of any of the groups.

There were no reported injuries or damages to property. The two groups also did not file any complaint after they settled their differences "amicably" in the presence of the police.

"They shook hands," said Rebanio, quoting the police report.

Osmeña admitted he was with a group involved in the fight, but denied he had taken part in it.

"I don't know how my name came out. I was not particularly involved in that fight; it was my friend. I was with a group of friends and when we heard there was a fight, we went there to see," Osmeña said.

He said that Lopez almost hit him in the eye when the latter tried to kick his friend.

"I've no idea what caused the fight. I don't even know the guy's name (referring to Lopez). His foot was right in the corner of my eye so I parried it," he added.

The incident was reported to the police five minutes after the fight started by someone on the staff of Cocomangas.

Osmeña said the groups later patched things up, and added he even shook hands with Lopez.

Blunders by 3 presidents blamed for power mess

COSTLY blunders committed by three presidents have made a huge mess in the power industry and has resulted in the unabated skyrocketing of the cost of electricity.

And the latest monumental mistake is a $500-million foreign loan to pay for President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision to reduce purchase power adjustment (PPA) charges which had driven the National Power Corp. deeper into bankruptcy.

This was the gist of a speech delivered by former Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile before the Federation of Philippine Industries (FPI) as he urged the country's business and industrial sector to unite with consumers in seeking immediate reforms in the power industry.

In reaction to the speech, the federation urged the government to amend the controversial Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) because it allegedly contained provisions that make it difficult for domestic businesses to be competitive.

FPI chair Meneleo Carlos Jr., speaking at the "Forum on Power" at Club Filipino, said one reason domestic businesses were becoming uncompetitive was the high cost of electricity in the country.

FPI president Jesus Arranza said some of the provisions of the Epira allowed for the regime of expensive electric power.

Review Epira

The FPI, which groups various industry associations, called for a review of the Epira's provisions pertaining to the contracts with independent power producers (IPP) of the state-owned National Power Corp. and the Manila Electric Company distribution utility.

Arranza said the government should do something about eliminating the provision that allows IPPs to charge to end-users the cost of electricity consumed, adding that this provision was causing suffering to the consuming public.

Arranza also cited a provision in the Epira which removed the cap on the return on investment that IPPs are allowed, and proposed that the cap should be restored.

"If I were Meralco and I have my own IPP, I can easily bloat my income and still make it appear as if Meralco was just breaking even because the IPPs are now exempt from having a cap on their return on investment. Then Meralco will still pass on the cost to the end-user," he said.

The FPI criticized the Lopez Group-owned Meralco for reducing the amount of electricity it purchased from Napocor to benefit the IPPs co-owned by the Lopezes.

It questioned why Meralco was buying electricity from the IPPs that charge P4.50 to P5.50 per kilowatt hour, and not from Napocor whose power is priced at P3.50 per kWh.

Among the Lopez-owned IPPs are First Gas Power Corp., Duracom and Quezon Power.

"The Epira should be reviewed to disallow cross-ownership. Those who own electricity generation companies should not be allowed to own electricity distribution companies because it results in higher electricity rates," said Arranza.

Napocor senior vice president Roland Quilala, who was at the forum, said the energy department was conducting negotiations with the IPPs on to how to reduce purchased power adjustment costs.

Publicity stunt

Enrile, an advocate for consumer protection against abuses in the electric power industry, said President Macapagal's lowering of the PPA was meant to salvage a boast she made in pushing for the passage by Congress of the Epira Law that electricity rates would immediately go down by 30 centavos per kWh .

It turned out to be a very expensive publicity stunt that backfired as electric bills of consumers skyrocketed to the public's dismay and shock, Enrile said.

Enrile traced the history of the country's worsening power crisis, starting from the decision of then President Corazon Aquino to abolish the Department of Energy, to return the Meralco to the Lopez family, and to scrap the expensive Bataan nuclear power plant, a $2 billion mistake for which the people are still paying to this day.

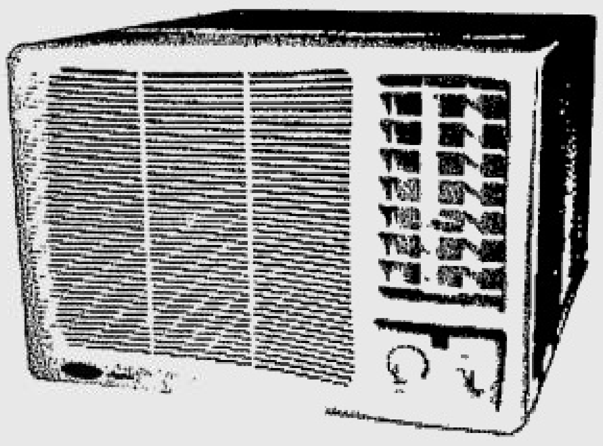
When Fidel Ramos became president, he used his emergency powers to enter into onerous contracts with independent power producers, resulting in an oversupply of power, Enrile said. As a result Napocor had to pay for the excess power it did not need or use.

Then, Enrile said, came Ms Macapagal, whose Epira raised the cost of power even more, instead of bringing it down. The former senator said he warned the President against signing Epira into a law but that he never had "the courtesy of any reply." *Michelle V. Remo*

CONCEPCION-CARRIER
AIR CONDITIONING
CONCEPCION-CARRIER CUSTOMER CARE
FASTX'T
0917-8435555
0918-9175555

BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT THE CARRIER AIR CONDITIONERS THAT COOL HOMES AND OFFICES IN AUSTRALIA...

...ARE THE SAME CARRIER AIR CONDITIONERS THAT COOL HOMES AND OFFICES IN THE PHILIPPINES.



THAT'S BECAUSE CARRIER AIR CONDITIONERS MADE IN THE PHILIPPINES ARE NOW EXPORTED TO AUSTRALIA AND TO MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, THE SAME CARRIERS TRUSTED WORLDWIDE FOR THEIR DURABILITY AND LONG-LASTING RELIABILITY.

THAT'S RIGHT.

MADE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

USED WORLDWIDE.

COOL?

YOU BET.

Carrier

No.1 in air conditioning

Federal HARDWARE

BUILDER'S CENTER

Smart Buys

25% OFF NOW ONLY ₱855.00
Cargo Hand Truck
150 Kg Loading Capacity
Before: ~~₱1,140.00~~

FREE PRECISION SCREWDRIVER FOR A MINIMUM SINGLE RECEIPT PURCHASE OF ₱500.00
CUT & PRESENT THIS COUPON AT ANY FEDERAL HARDWARE BRANCHES

Federal 2T HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK OUR PRICE ₱675.00

Federal 40-PC. SOCKET WRENCH SET OUR PRICE ₱222.00

Federal VISE GRIP OUR PRICE ₱185.00

Promo Period: April 12-30, 2003
Per DTI NCR Permit No. 1606 Series of 2003

TOOLS PAINTS LUMBER ELECTRICAL TILES PLUMBING LAWN & GARDEN FURNITURES

OPEN TOMORROW MAY 1, 2003

MAKATI 2250 Don Chino Roces Avenue (Pasong Tamo), Makati City Tels. 893 1654 • 893 1690 **E. RODRIGUEZ** 113 E. Rodriguez Ave. (Near G. Araneta Ave.) Quezon City Tel. 732-1906 **CUBAO** 985 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City Tel. 421-9250 **COMMONWEALTH** Commonwealth Ave., East Fairview, Quezon City Tel. 428-4844 **TAYTAY** 175 Manila East Road. Kaytikling, Taytay, Rizal Tels. 284-2206 • 665-3442 **CAINTA** No. 9 Imelda Ave. (Near MAKRO), Cainta, Rizal Tel. 678-1638 **LAS PIÑAS** (In front of SM Southmall) Lot 7, Alabang-Zapote Rd.,Brgy. Almanza, Las Piñas City Tels. 801-7152 • 800-7131 • 800-7132 • 800-7134 **BACOOR, CAVITE** Tropical Hut Bldg., Bacoor, Cavite Tel. (046) 870-2598 **IMUS, CAVITE** 379 NR Aguinaldo Highway (Near Robinsons), Anabu1-C Imus, Cavite Tel. (046) 875-4840 **DASMARIÑAS** Km. 37 Aguinaldo Hi-way, Dasmariñas, Cavite Tel. (046) 416-3743 **MAKILING, CALAMBA** Maharlika Highway, Brgy. Makiling, Calamba, Laguna Tel. (049) 245-6667 **BIÑAN** National Highway, Bo. Tubigan, Biñan, Laguna Tel. (049) 839-2069 **SAN PABLO** Maharlika Highway, San Pablo, Laguna Tel. (049) 562-7361 **BOCAUE** 162 Mc Arthur Hi-way, Wakes Bocaue, Bulacan (044) 692-6719 **ANGELES** 509 &571 McArthur Highway, Sto. Domingo, Angeles City Tel. (045) 888-4186

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2003

Eugenia D. Apostol *Founding Chairman*

INQUIRER

Vol. 18 No. 141
ISSN
0116-2642

OPINION

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

•100% soy ink•

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
City Editor **Gerry Lirio**
Senior Desk Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **David O. Valdes**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

SARS-free?

EDITORIAL

AFTER WEEKs of unrelieved gloom over what looked like a swift, irreversible slide toward a global SARS pandemic, there is good news finally. On Monday, the World Health Organization announced that the worst may be over in Vietnam, Singapore, Hong Kong and Canada. "It appears from reports that the epidemic has peaked in those countries," said WHO chief for communicable diseases David Heyman who noted that fewer cases were being reported in those places. Vietnam was cited by the WHO for showing to the world that "there is hope SARS can be contained." There had been five deaths from SARS in that country, but no new cases have been reported since April 8.

Similarly bright news have also come up on the home front. Yesterday, the overseas worker from Eastern Samar who was thought to have contracted the disease in Hong Kong was sent home after she showed no signs of fever and health authorities determined that she never had SARS in the first place. Regional officials, who had come under fire from Leyte officials and residents for bringing "JP" to the government-run East Visayas Regional Medical Center in Tacloban City, happily declared the region to be "SARS-free."

Apparently also SARS-free now is Barangay Vacante in Alcala, Pangasinan, where the two fatalities from the dread disease came from. Health authorities had ordered the village placed under quarantine for two weeks following the death on April 14 of Adela Catalon, a nursing aide in Toronto, the epicenter of the SARS outbreak in Canada. Also succumbing to SARS eight days later was her cancer-stricken father. The quarantine was lifted Sunday, although 26 people will remain in isolation for a few more days. Happily no one in the village came down with fever or any other symptoms associated with SARS. And neither did some 700 or 800 people with whom Catalon came in contact with as she traveled to many places and attended social functions during her short-lived homecoming.

There have been, of course, several suspected cases of SARS recently, including a South Korean girl who was found to have high fever upon her arrival in Manila Monday. But with no new cases being confirmed by health authorities, the country can now be said to be SARS-free—for the time being at least.

Now, Filipinos can breathe more easily—literally. And maybe there will be less of the paranoia that sees a SARS carrier in every person who sneezes and a spreader in every resident of Vacante or Maybocog, the barangay in Maydolong, Eastern Samar, where JP comes from.

This does not mean the disease has been licked, much less that it will not happen again. While the number of cases has gone down in many other countries, SARS continues to rage in China where more than 3,000 people have been stricken down by the disease and 139 have been killed so far. Just as bad is the news that the development of a vaccine may take at least a year.

Thus vigilance, caution and care should be the watchword for everyone. It isn't time to let our guard down or sit on our hands. As President Macapagal-Arroyo put it, "We must anticipate the worst scenario so that we will not wake up to a crisis that is much bigger than we imagined."

It may be a heavy burden to those who are affected, but if a person or a place needs to be quarantined then the authorities should not hesitate to issue the order. If the law does not allow certain measures that are necessary to contain the spread of the disease, then Congress should hurry to pass the needed legislation.

In the meantime, the nation could do without the injection of politics into this problem. It doesn't help anyone to see a drift towards martial law in every stringent measure government puts up or proposes to deal with this life-and-death issue. A health catastrophe threatens the nation and all some people see is martial law creeping in. Paranoia over the exercise of power can be as deadly as the fear of SARS.

Winning the peace

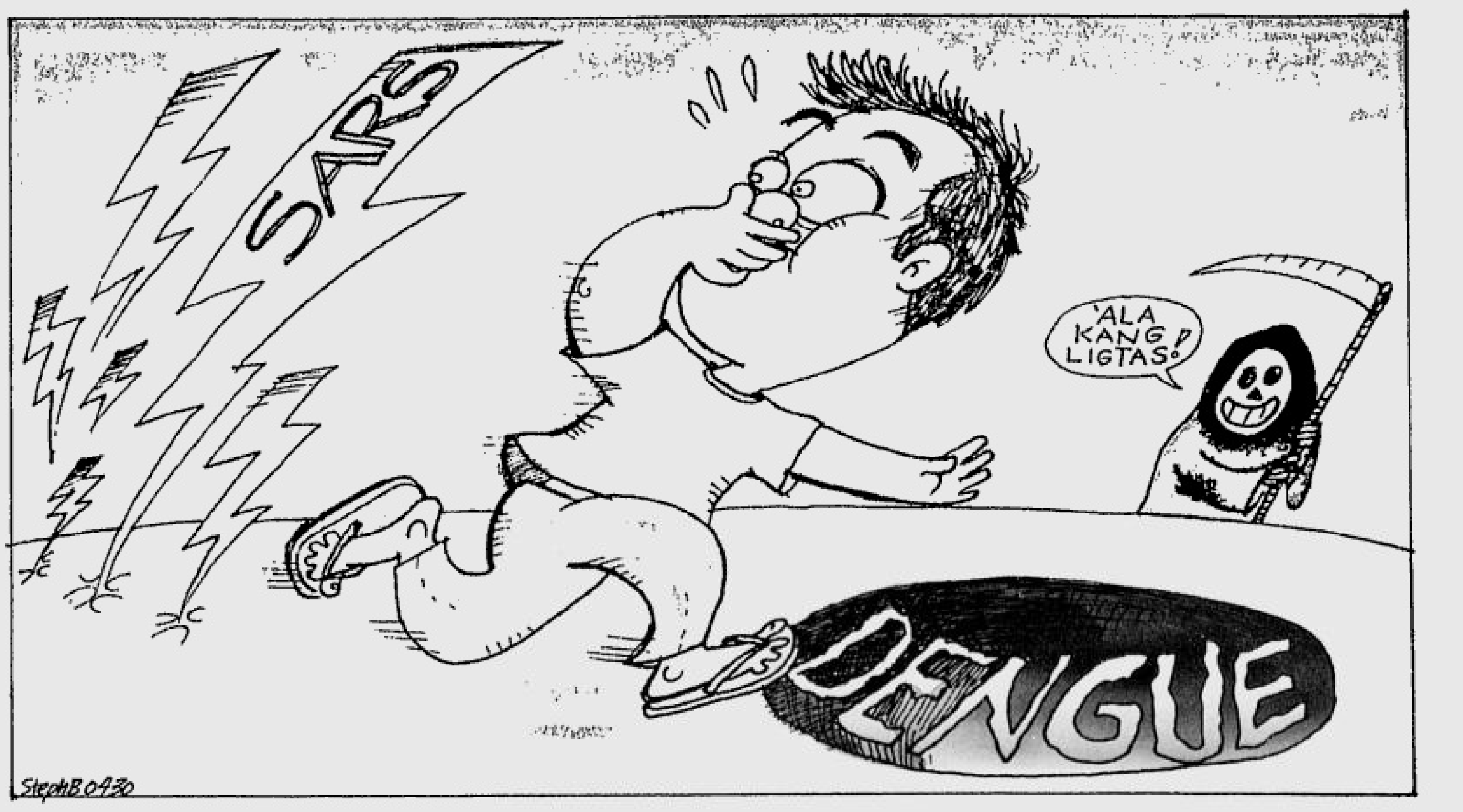
FOREIGN COMMENT

IF it is serious about striving for democracy in the Middle East, the United States needs to realize that it may not like what first may arise there. The US must have patience and feeling for distinctions within the wide field of political Islam.

If it directs the process too much toward a secular, US-friendly regime, the efforts may backfire and lead to a new Lebanon.

It deserves to be repeated: winning the peace is more difficult than winning the war.

Expressen (Stockholm, Sweden)



A warning on herbal medicine

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

ONE positive effect of the SARS scare is that we are saving a lot of taxpayers' money and precious foreign exchange which at this time of the year would ordinarily be wasted on numerous junkets by government officials. Usually almost all the congressmen and senators are traveling abroad now on one pretext or another, all spending the people's money. The elite would also be abroad, as they wouldn't be caught dead spending summer in a backward country like the Philippines. Even those who can hardly afford it but are seeking status, would be in Hong Kong or Singapore so they can say that they spent their vacations abroad. They think that is how to achieve status.

The SARS scare has changed all that. Most of our legislators and other public officials are home, with the exception of President Macapagal-Arroyo, and especially former President Fidel V. Ramos who wants to eclipse the travel record of Marco Polo. All because it is now dangerous to travel, especially to SARS-infected countries. Just riding in airplanes is risky, not because of hijackers but because of SARS. The jetliner's cabin is one of the likeliest places to catch the SARS virus. It is a closed space; the air in it is circulated and recirculated again and again. If only one passenger is a carrier, he can spread the virus to all the other passengers. But so can riding in an air-conditioned bus, the Metrorail, or going to a movie house or a shopping mall, all of which are closed spaces with recirculated air.

Where is the best place to go this summer and avoid SARS? Somebody asked at yesterday's health forum at Annabel's in Quezon City, which dwelt principally on the hazards of air travel because of SARS. The answer to that question is this: Go to open spaces with plenty of sunshine, such as the beach. Sunlight kills the SARS virus within three hours. So stay in the sunshine in the beach resorts, not in the air-conditioned rooms and bars. But don't get sunburned.

* * *

As in any case of calamity, it is sad that there are unscrupulous people taking advantage of the SARS emergency, particularly the profiteers. The prices of face masks, alcohol and other disinfectants, and vitamin pills have skyrocketed as people rush to the drugstores to protect themselves. There was even a report in the media that a papaya extract being sold by an entrepreneur fights SARS.

Is this true? The doctors at the health forum were asked.

Their answer: There is still no known cure for SARS. There is no finding nor experiment done on papaya extract. So don't waste your money on it.

What about vitamin pills?

They don't cure SARS. They only strengthen your body's immune system so that it can fight the SARS virus better and all other viruses and bacteria that manage to enter your body.

So what drugs are given to SARS cases?

They are given only supportive therapy, to help their immune system to fight the SARS virus. But there is still no known drug that can kill it.

The best way to fight SARS is prevention, said the doctors. Improve your health by eating the right food and exercising regularly. Be more hygienic and sanitary. Wash your hands more often, with ordinary soap and water for at least five minutes each time, or with rubbing alcohol more quickly. Avoid touching your mouth, nose and eyes; that is where germs usually enter your body.

* * *

A sidebar on herbal medicine such as papaya extract. There are advertisements touting certain herbal medicines for various diseases: ampalaya pills and tea for diabetes, mahogany seeds for high blood pressure, *pito-pito* leaves for all sorts of diseases, *noni* juice, etc. There are articles by prominent personalities attesting to the efficacy of some herbal medicines from personal experience. Any number of friends, relatives and co-workers swear that this or that herb has cured their illnesses.

Don't believe them, warn doctors. It is risky. While it is true that many drugs are extracts from plants and trees, the needed medication is carefully extracted from leaf, fruit, flower or bark. Tea from herbs or a cocktail of leaves, such as *pito-pito*, is a different thing, however. They may contain the desired medication, but you never know what other ingredients they contain. Some of them may be harmful to your health. Some may contain powerful toxins. Mahogany seeds were very popular allegedly in lowering blood pressure sometime ago until some people taking them died and it was discovered that the seeds contained dangerous toxins. The same may be true of other herbal medicines. Their sale is allowed by the government because they are classified as food supplements and not as drugs.

I had a friend touting the efficacy of a cocktail of algae and other ingredients advertised in the United States. It had made her more sprightly and banished all her aches and pains, she swore. Until it was discovered by laboratory examination that the cocktail contained, besides the algae and other ingredients, bacteria and other detritus such as cockroach and rat droppings.

So don't believe those stories of your well-meaning friends and relatives. The well-being they feel after taking the herbal medicine may be psychological and emotional. They have faith in the herb so they feel better, the same thing that a placebo does to certain patients.

If they feel better, so it must be good? Yes, so long as the herb does not contain harmful properties. But what if it does? You never know unless the herb or leaf is subjected to laboratory analysis. You can be slowly poisoning yourself with an herb you think is curing you.

Still, means and ends

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

A READER had a very interesting reaction to the column I wrote last Wednesday, the one about the purpose of education being to educate and not just to help people find work. His (long) letter reads in part:

"I am Floyd Gumpal Buenavente, a student of mass communications in UP Cebu. I just want you to know that I was very much affected by your April 23 column 'Means and ends.' It's not because I am graduating, it is because I am not. I've been in UP for quite some time, about five years and counting, scandalous for a course that requires its students to finish in four years and a school that pays for its students in its country's taxes. My friends in UP tell me bluntly I should lose my idealism in order to be a part of the grazing herd that 'lives to work'...

"(Given) the continuing migration of our intellectuals to other countries, your column made me thihk that maybe education should stop. Students should not study, students should not pay their tuition, students should organize. Rizal said, 'Show me your students and I'll show you your government.' He was right....

"During martial law I think students did this, but now they are branded as heretics and their schools mark their student numbers. It is not easy to bear the responsibility of being an *iskolar ng bayan* and opening your eyes to the truth!"

Well, it is a radical option, one students took not just during martial law but during the four of five years that preceded it. The First Quarter Storm may have begun for us in 1970, but it began worldwide in 1968, in the ferment that swept over campuses from Sorbonne to Berkeley, from the University of Mexico to the University of the Philippines. I myself would not be loath to see something like that happen again—but only if its underlying philosophy was understood.

Buenavente's implicit premise of course is that there's something wrong with the education itself. That's what inverts the natural order of things from "we work to educate ourselves," or more generally "we work to live," into "we educate ourselves to work," or "we live to work." And more sadly, that is what consumes us to leave this country and look for greener pastures abroad. Buenavente's understated assumption is that it's not just that students unfortunately get to think that way. It's that schools systematically make them think that way.

It's an arguable premise. You find it in the utterances of school and education officials, in their definition of "competitiveness," which quite patently suggests a quality of education that makes graduates sufficiently attractive in the job market. You find it in the courses that are given priority in schools, chief of them the ones that offer to produce world-class managers rather than world-class philosophers. And you find it in the culture itself, in the assumptions or definitions of success, or class. The last often comes in the form of jokes. The one I heard recently has to do with the favorite coffee of students from various schools. Ateneans prefer Starbucks, La Salleans Seattle's Best, and UP students Coffee Republic. University belt (or technical or vocational school) students prefer Kopiko.

It suggests, though with the bitter pill of laughter, that the ideal of education is to crash the Starbucks-Seattle's Best circuit, become the manager of a big company, and/or work abroad.

The inability of education to produce educated people, defined as those who like to ask questions about the world they live in, or as those who demand to serve the people rather than just themselves, was a favorite thesis in the 1960s and 1970s. The late great Renato Constantino wrote a whole series of essays on it, which he collected in the book, "The Mis-education of the Filipino." The word "mis-education" says it all. Constantino argued that education did not just hide the past—it gave low priority to history and similar subjects—it carried all the myths of the past, myths about the making of this nation.

Education, while part of the solution, was also part of the problem. The reason many Filiplnos had no sense of country was not that they did not go to school but that they did. They had been mis-educated.

That is the reason I say I would not be loath to see another burst of intellectual ferment light up the campuses worldwide—who knows, maybe the American wars of this decade will spark just that. But this is the part where I have to make serious caveats about Buenavente's thoughts. The most important of which is: Education may **not** stop. Even schooling may not stop—the better course would be for students and their parents—to protest their curriculum where they find them, well, the favorite word then was "irrelevant." But education itself may never stop.

The students who dropped out, or were kicked out, in the late 1960s and 1970s did **not** stop pursuing education. On the contrary, they did so with exceptional zeal. Most of them read voraciously and debated with each other and with their teachers and school officials—which was how they often got kicked out in the first place. Which is the vital point here: Education doesn't just happen inside school, it happens after school, outside of school, at every point in our lives. Much of that education may not land you a desk in one of the gleaming towers in Ayala, much of that education may only lead you to despair, like the betrayed Florante, about the "*labas at loob ng bayan kong sawi.*" But it will at least help you to look back at life one day and not ask yourself bitterly what the hell you did with it. All you can remember is that all your waking moment, you were busy using your precious human substance to acquire things, among them mistresses. It will at least help you see means and ends.

That makes all the difference.

A test of Asean collectivity, too

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

LEADERS of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, together with China's Premier Wen Jiabao, are holding an emergency summit in Bangkok to forge a common front in battling the SARS epidemic, the worst viral scourge to attack the region and its worst crisis since the Asian financial meltdown in 1997.

The presence of the Chinese premier underlines the fact that the biggest economic power in the region has closed ranks with its smaller neighbors as China takes the heaviest toll in the region—with 2,914 cases, 131 of whom have died.

The Philippines is among the Asean countries that have the lowest casualties from the epidemic—three confirmed cases with two deaths, according to the latest World Health Organization report. Indonesia has one reported case, who has recovered. Malaysia has six cases, with two deaths and two recoveries; and Thailand, seven cases, with two deaths and five recoveries. In the high-toll list are Singapore with 199 cases, with 23 deaths, and 137 recoveries; and Vietnam, with 63 cases, five deaths and 53 recoveries.

Outside of Asean but within East Asia, Hong Kong comes next to China as the worst-hit country; the WHO report said Hong Kong had 1,557 cases, with 138 deaths, and Taiwan, with 66 cases and zero death.

But relief is sighted in the bleak horizon. The WHO reported, at the peak of the Asean summit, that the epidemic appeared to have peaked in countries outside China, in which 161 new cases have been reported. According to the WHO, "It appears from reports we have from Hong Kong, Singapore, Toronto (Canada) and Vietnam that the epidemic has peaked in those countries and now they're having fewer cases every day, and in some countries, no new cases, such as Vietnam."

Although no cure has yet been discovered for SARS, stringent, if not draconian health and quarantine measures, appeared to have checked the spread of the virus in the heavily stricken countries, excluding China which had covered-up the extent of the contagion since it was first reported last November.

The Philippines finds itself in the same situation in Asean as it was during the 1997 financial crisis. It was the least severely devastated in Asean in the financial meltdown and today, it has the lowest SARS casualty after Indonesia. The Philippines and Indonesia, however, have been afflicted by violence and bombings stemming from the conflict with separatist or religious extremist groups. But in Bangkok today, SARS is the sole and primary concern because SARS does not respect national frontiers.

SARS has proved to be a great leveler against which the big and the small nations of Asia find themselves equally vulnerable to its infection. The 1997 financial crisis weakened Asia economically and even politically. Asean could deal with the financial meltdown as a collectivity. Each member country fell back to its national policy and resources to counter the dislocation wrought by the crisis. Each country undertook financial reforms and sought financial relief by consulting with one another. In that crisis, it was as though Asean as a framework for regional cooperation did not exist or was in total disarray.

A semblance of collective action returned after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the United States, in which Asean joined the condemnation on terrorism, although in the US-led war on Iraq, only the Philippines and Singapore joined the American-sponsored "coalition of the willing" for the invasion of Iraq.

Perhaps because the Philippines has not been severely hit by the first wave of the SARS contagion, it had sought refuge in the belief that it was "SARS-free," and became a little too complacent until two deaths were reported recently. The deaths were a wake-up call which prompted the Philippines to catch up with the stringent measures installed by such countries as Singapore, Vietnam and Hong Kong.

Now we are overdoing things in our reaction. We are considering a state of "national emergency" and other tough measures which President Macapagal-Arroyo said are necessary because this is a matter of "national survival." There is even a plan to pass an emergency legislation against SARS, giving the President emergency powers including curtailing movement of people or putting under quarantine hospitals and communities infected by SARS.

These draconian measures are effective especially in Singapore, which has a small population and is enclosed in a small territory, or in Vietnam, where the authorities there have autocratic control. This probably helps explain why, despite the high infection toll in those countries, they are able to arrest effectively the spread of the virus.

SARS has also thrown the Asian economies in the same boat, sharing the misery that originated in Guangdong province, China. The Asian Development Bank the other day lowered the economic growth forecasts for Asia, as a result of the fallout from two shocks—SARS and the Iraq war. The ADB downgraded its GDP growth forecast for East Asia to 5.3 percent from 5.8 percent. The Philippines' GDP forecast for 2003 was trimmed to 4 percent from 4.5 percent. The World Bank has also shaved off growth forecasts for the region by a percentage point. But the ADB offered a consolation—the contraction will be of short duration and growth will bounce back after the epidemic has abated and the uncertainties left by the Iraq war clear up.

SARS is not all downside. If members of the Asean needed a shock to wake up again to the need to have a common purpose and to close ranks, the epidemic did it for them.

Protection at less than P1 a day

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AT P22 a pack, "Lady," a newly launched oral contraceptive that comes in a distinctive yellow pack, provides protection against pregnancy for less than P1 a day.

Marketed here by DKT International, with support from USAID, "Lady" is a low-dose oral contraceptive that, because it contains the smallest effective amount of contraceptive substances, substantially lowers the risk of side effects usually associated with pills. As the product insert notes, because oral contraceptives work by mimicking pregnancy, a woman on the pill "goes through the same early signs of pregnancy including nausea, heaviness of feet, dizziness, minor weight gain, etc." Though these side effects usually disappear within one or two months when the woman's body gets adjusted to the substances, these sometimes lead women to shift to another brand of pills or to another method, or stop using contraception altogether. With a low-dose pill like "Lady," the risk of side effects should be considerably reduced.

"Lady," then, addresses two major issues cited when women are asked why they refrain from or have stopped using contraception: cost and fear of side effects.

Let's tackle the first issue.

Even before "Lady" was introduced in the market, the cheapest brand, of oral contraceptives sold for P50 a packet. Even at this price, it wasn't a major expense, considering what many Filipinos look on as "essentials" for decent living, apart from food, clothing, shelter and sex, of course.

How much is a pack of cigarettes, for instance? Hope, the *"masa"* brand costs P25, while the higher-end Marlboro retails for P30. A *lapad* of Ginebra San Miguel sells for P24.50, while a bottle of San Miguel Beer can be bought for P12.50 (all prices care of the corner grocery). Clearly, a man who smokes or drinks can certainly afford to buy his wife or himself protection from an unwanted pregnancy.

* * *

WHAT about the things a woman would consider "essential"? A manicure goes for at least P50 these days, and if you pair that with a weekly pedicure, we're talking at least P400 a month. But if you, like me, have become addicted to foot spas, one procedure will set you back at least P400. Not to mention shelling out tips for the staff.

A movie ticket costs P60, although if you enjoy movie watching in upscale malls, a ticket is easily double that amount. And the popcorn ain't free. You'll also need P20 for an FX ride to the mall. Even dreaming, while free, demands you disburse P10 for every lotto ticket if you want those dreams to come true.

Let's move on to the issue of side effects. Dr. Jondi Flavier, who's with FriendlyCare Foundation and whom I spotted at the "Lady" launch and lassoed into an impromptu interview, says that because different brands of contraceptive pills have different formulations, a woman will experience different side effects of varying severity. It's only a question of finding the brand that best suits you, the one to which you're most *"hiyang,"* Flavier said.

So instead of giving up on contraception entirely when one brand of pills gives you terrible migraines, the better course of action should be to go back to your nearest health center or clinic, tell the doctor, nurse or midwife your complaints and ask for either a different brand of pills or another method of contraception.

* * *

THE PILL, even a low-dose brand like "Lady," is not for every woman, or even for a pill user as she gets older. If you're more than 40 years old, a heavy smoker, or suffer from high blood pressure, diabetes, clotting disorders, migraine, asthma, epilepsy, TB, jaundice, heart and liver diseases, then the oral contraceptive pill might not be your method of first choice, at least without consulting a doctor first. And if you're not in a monogamous long-term relationship, then you might not need to be on a "long-term" family planning method. In fact, if you are into casual sex, then you'll certainly need protection from sexually transmitted infections as well, which only the condom can provide.

The good news is that there are so many other modern methods of family planning available. Even better news is that over the long term, these methods will prove to be even more "cost-effective" than the pill.

* * *

AT FRIENDLYCARE clinics, for instance, a woman or couple can obtain information, counseling and commodities at very reasonable prices. For the "Standard Days Method," a couple need only pay P60 for a consultation and P60 for the "necklace" which will help them keep track of the woman's safe and unsafe days. Injectables, which provide protection against pregnancy for up to three months, costs P60 initially for the consultation plus P50-60 per injection, which brings the monthly cost to no more than P20.

FriendlyCare charges P250 for counseling and insertion of an IUD, although the device itself comes free courtesy of the Department of Health. Considering that an IUD provides up to 10 years of protection, that amounts to only P25 for every year of protection!

Initially, the option for a permanent method, whether for a tubal ligation or a vasectomy, might seem expensive. At FriendlyCare a procedure costs P3,060, though the expense can be charged to PhilHealth. But given that it's permanent, and so could protect you from pregnancy for 20 or even 30 years, the monthly cost could range from P8.50 to P12.75!

Clearly, neither cost nor fear of side effects should deter a man, woman or a couple from using a family planning method of their choice. All it needs is a belief in responsible parenthood and sexual behavior, and the right order of priorities for one's life and for one's family.

Open letter to SARS czar Dayrit

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

SECOND only to the President, you bear the heaviest responsibility in the country today with the magnitude of the work ahead, unknown, just like SARS. Each in his own way, we will cooperate in whatever you do in this fight.

We have already stepped forward by calling a spade a spade, done with the "denial" stage. For a while we thought you were doing a China.

Now we all know : the symptoms, the countries involved, the figures each day, and for us Filipinos the sad tales of our four SARS cases. So aware is everybody that our maid, seeing a man with a mask in his balcony, blurted, "Ma'am *may* SARS *ata doon!*"

But what we still don't know is some basic information and the guarantee of its dissemination in Filipino, English and the vernaculars.

What telephone numbers can we call; what hotlines; what help can we expect? I hastily jotted down 7417048 before it disappeared from the TV screen, but beyond that, I must scour the PLDT directories.

What hospitals can we go to in the city and in the provinces? The Research Institute of Tropical Medicine (RITM) and San Lazaro have been named but exactly where are they located? San Lazaro may be a household word but who heard of RITM till now?

What are the capabilities of these hospitals? With a billion-peso standby fund, how many protective suits do they have, how many masks, gloves, etc., how much medicine in stock, how many doctors, nurses, caregivers (our present heroes, by the way); how many can be accommodated?

Where can we buy N95 masks? I copied telephone numbers posted at MMC for SARS masks. Yes, the lady on the other end said. We have model 8710 at P200 each and model 8210 (the recommended N95) at P250, but the N95 is out of stock. Even Mercury stores are "out of stock." So, where, oh where, and at what price, how can Juan and Juana de la Cruz buy even one mask?

How long is the recommended length of quarantine at the airport, at home, of communities? Seven, 10, 14 days? What can and cannot be done in quarantine? Is it true that alcohol and chlorox will help? That we must take a lot of Vitamin C and E? What about outfits who offer services to make homes "SARS-free"?

Maybe we can't do anything about the virulence of SARS. That's not in our hands. Talk to people and they'll say they're more afraid of SARS than the war. Iraq is peanuts; at least we know where it is. But SARS is "strike anywhere" and with no known medicine—yet.

But we can do something about at least three factors that are in our hands. To nip contagion before it starts: the airport, our behavioral culture and media, are crucial. The first two demand discipline and the third must be aggressively harnessed.

No doubt about it, the airport (and the seaports too) is the entrance gate for SARS. Our OFWs who will trickle or pour back home are the main carriers. With maximum understanding for whatever reasons they come back, they must be thoroughly checked or quarantined before they fan out into every corner of the Philippines. Of our four confirmed cases, "three came from abroad while one [was due to] local transmission." Are all arrivals given guidelines and hotlines as claimed? What is this we hear of about lackadaisical check ups? "All must be found" says WHO and the airport is the starting point.

By now, Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon whom I much admire must be sorry for that thoughtless suggestion enticing tourists to come over, like what—for 30 pieces of silver? In fact we should perhaps bar tourists from SARS-hit countries.

Considering our behavioral culture, surveillance and the law must be merciless. Filipinos are known to be *puslit and lusot* artists, lovers of family and clan, social beings who must *pasyal* and party, believers of *bahala na*, optimists who believe anybody else can get it, but "not me," masters in making light of serious matters ("The virus can't stand our pollution and the heat"). We will find ways to evade the law and we will circulate until caught or infected.

The information drive needs no less than a media blitz—tabloids, TV, radio, movie houses, posters, leaflets. "But we don't want the people to panic." Lame excuse. Harness the wordsmiths in media and advertising who will package a campaign that will allay fears, spread information, not paranoia, and determine the frequency of dissemination to avoid overkill. They will know what to do. Emily Abrera, we need you.

A czar's "sweeping powers" can bring together the principal players in this drama: suppliers, media and ad gurus, printers, etc. for a coordinated campaign.

I shudder to think what could happen if SARS spreads. Let's not even talk of squatter colonies, but of crowded districts like Paco, Sampaloc, Tondo.

Jaime Cardinal Sin has turned to prayer. Many hope for divine intervention, but only when we do what we have to do. By the way, what is this sinister rumor that the SARS virus was genetically produced?

Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist. Comments to marda@info.com.ph; fax 8210659

Reading with the kids

HIGH BLOOD

Eufemia C. Estrada

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

LEARNING is a never-ending process. And it works both ways—for the learner and the teacher.

Perhaps that is why I stuck to teaching for 38 years and when I got into a second trajectory, writing a cooking column, it was a teaching column: how to prepare different dishes.

Today, in my 70s, I have retired from writing a cooking column but the learning process continues. This time reading with my grandnephew, Noel, and grandnieces Nana and Mickee.

Noel, who is 6, is not into storybooks. One of the few storybooks he liked was "Mushrooms in the Rain," because we could act out the creatures crowding under an umbrella, a pretend mushroom growing in the rain.

Another book he liked was: "Where Are You Going, Little Mouse?" because he could answer, "No" every time the runaway mouse was asked, "Have you found them?"

Then I introduced the kids to the book, "Insect World," A Child's First Library of Learning by Time-Life. Together, day after day, we pored over mind-boggling questions like: Why do only female mosquitos bite? Why do cicadas spray you? Why does a dragonfly dip its tail into the water? Why does everyone hate cockroaches? and the like.

How much handling the favorite book has undergone is evident in the missing pages and tattered condition of the hardbound book.

Then we got hooked on butterflies. I had an old bag where I kept all the books I had collected on these topics which I brought along every time I came for a visit.

We learned among other things that butterfly eggs are the size of a pinhead and are not always round depending on the specie; that butterflies smell through their antenna; that butterflies start out as wriggly, hungry "worms" and metamorphose into beautiful, colorful butterflies; that butterflies can protect themselves from predators through such devices as natural camouflage (the color of leaves, for example); that it takes a spider one hour to spin a web.

One of Noel's favorite pictures in one of my butterfly books which he describes as "cool," is that of a little boy in overalls peering into his butterfly net to see if he had caught any butterflies. This would send him giggling. But he got the message: don't chase butterflies!

Together we have gone on field trips to the butterfly gardens at the Quezon Memorial Circle (now it's at the Manila Seedling Bank), at the Assumption in Antipolo, in Pulilan, Bulacan and in Subic.

There the kids saw not only varied colored butterflies but liberally splashed with floral cologne; they had the thrill of butterflies alighting on their heads, arms or clothes.

Noel was wary of these alighting butterflies but the girls just loved it. A butterfly even laid an egg on one of the girls' heads. We know, because it curled its abdomen as it does when it is laying eggs.

Butterflies used to breed in my potted *lemoncito* plants in my balcony. I even had the rare opportunity of seeing a butterfly emerge from its pupa, rest its wet wings and take off when they had dried. To me the sight of my *lemoncito* plants bare of leaves was always a welcome sight. But one afternoon I caught the maid, oh the maid, picking out the "worms" eating all the leaves. "Those are not worms. They are caterpillars!" I lectured her. But when the butterflies stopped breeding because of the pollution I gave away my plants to the three kids. Over at UP Village, for a while, the kids would show me the caterpillars eating their way through the *lemoncito* plants. But it seems they fell prey to the neighborhood birds. (Today, the *lemoncito* plants are lush and idle and gone are the butterflies.)

This summer we have already had two topics of interest to pursue—ships and boats and seashells.

From the book "How Things Work, Ships, Boats, Submarines and Other Floating Machines," we saw different kinds of seacraft and got stymied, temporarily, by Noel's wondering out loud how come a ship does not sink when it's made of metal. A poser, he, thankfully, answered himself, "I know, I know. Because of the water pressure." The book, you see, contains simple experiments using everyday things like empty bottles and drinking straws to prove certain relevant facts.

The latest craze is seashells. Earlier, Nana, 8, had received a couple of shells from my sister's collection. She was brushing them with an old toothbrush when I dropped by recently. When they came over to spend the day we had to set aside the house rule: Do not touch the collectibles. But Nana and Noel handle my shells very carefully, cupping them in their hands as if they were treasures. Even my fragile sea urchin.

The two were especially excited when they saw an eggshell cowrie of Colgate toothpaste fame, in my collection.

This was when Nana dropped one of her "when you go" bombshells. "Lola Femy, when you go, when you die (she adds in a whisper), can you give me something to remember you by?"

"What?" I ask when I finally find my voice.

"Your shells."

Well, what else is new. Earlier it was, "Lola Femy, when you die, can I have your house? Ours is so old."

Anyway, with my books on shells we set out to identify among my shells: cowries from the tiny *sigay* or money cowrie we use for our Bingo games to the big tiger cowries our grandparents used when darning socks (a lost art), helmets, tritons, moon shells, cones (which they learn are poisonous), and what catches their imagination most, carrier shells or the original shell collector, shells which attach dead shells to their exterior.

Mickee, who is 11 going on 12, loves the big "Book of Jokes." She has made a collection for every day of the week, for example: What is the favorite day of the astronauts? MOONday. A joke, a knock, knock joke and a tongue twister.

I find it useful too. Noel has only one joke in his repertoire: Why did the chicken cross the road? I can now counter this with: Why can't the three bears enter the house? Because Goldi lock(s) it. And I have a new knock, knock joke for him too: Knock, knock, Who's there? Tennis. Tennis who? Ten is half of twenty. He learns arithmetic.

Who knows what our next lesson will be? Noel is teaching me how to play chess and gleefully eats my pawn with a triumphant, "You didn't see that!" When I make a wrong move. Perhaps it will be on how to use the computer which they have learned without any "how to" manuals to befuddle them.

On one of my birthdays, one of my nephews gave me a book, "101 Ways to Stay Young" with this inscription: "To a Tita who never grows old."

My secret. Keep learning along with the kids. Better than any therapy.

Eufemia C. Estrada, 73, used to write a column for the Lifestyle section of the INQUIRER *titled "Cooking Made EC."*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

A test of Asean collectivity, too

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

LEADERS of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, together with China's Premier Wen Jiabao, are holding an emergency summit in Bangkok to forge a common front in battling the SARS epidemic, the worst viral scourge to attack the region and its worst crisis since the Asian financial meltdown in 1997.

The presence of the Chinese premier underlines the fact that the biggest economic power in the region has closed ranks with its smaller neighbors as China takes the heaviest toll in the region—with 2,914 cases, 131 of whom have died.

The Philippines is among the Asean countries that have the lowest casualties from the epidemic—three confirmed cases with two deaths, according to the latest World Health Organization report. Indonesia has one reported case, who has recovered. Malaysia has six cases, with two deaths and two recoveries; and Thailand, seven cases, with two deaths and five recoveries. In the high-toll list are Singapore with 199 cases, with 23 deaths, and 137 recoveries; and Vietnam, with 63 cases, five deaths and 53 recoveries.

Outside of Asean but within East Asia, Hong Kong comes next to China as the worst-hit country; the WHO report said Hong Kong had 1,557 cases, with 138 deaths, and Taiwan, with 66 cases and zero death.

But relief is sighted in the bleak horizon. The WHO reported, at the peak of the Asean summit, that the epidemic appeared to have peaked in countries outside China, in which 161 new cases have been reported. According to the WHO, "It appears from reports we have from Hong Kong, Singapore, Toronto (Canada) and Vietnam that the epidemic has peaked in those countries and now they're having fewer cases every day, and in some countries, no new cases, such as Vietnam."

Although no cure has yet been discovered for SARS, stringent, if not draconian health and quarantine measures, appeared to have checked the spread of the virus in the heavily stricken countries, excluding China which had covered-up the extent of the contagion since it was first reported last November.

The Philippines finds itself in the same situation in Asean as it was during the 1997 financial crisis. It was the least severely devastated in Asean in the financial meltdown and today, it has the lowest SARS casualty after Indonesia. The Philippines and Indonesia, however, have been afflicted by violence and bombings stemming from the conflict with separatist or religious extremist groups. But in Bangkok today, SARS is the sole and primary concern because SARS does not respect national frontiers.

SARS has proved to be a great leveler against which the big and the small nations of Asia find themselves equally vulnerable to its infection. The 1997 financial crisis weakened Asia economically and even politically. Asean could deal with the financial meltdown as a collectivity. Each member country fell back to its national policy and resources to counter the dislocation wrought by the crisis. Each country undertook financial reforms and sought financial relief by consulting with one another. In that crisis, it was as though Asean as a framework for regional cooperation did not exist or was in total disarray.

A semblance of collective action returned after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the United States, in which Asean joined the condemnation on terrorism, although in the US-led war on Iraq, only the Philippines and Singapore joined the American-sponsored "coalition of the willing" for the invasion of Iraq.

Perhaps because the Philippines has not been severely hit by the first wave of the SARS contagion, it had sought refuge in the belief that it was "SARS-free," and became a little too complacent until two deaths were reported recently. The deaths were a wake-up call which prompted the Philippines to catch up with the stringent measures installed by such countries as Singapore, Vietnam and Hong Kong.

Now we are overdoing things in our reaction. We are considering a state of "national emergency" and other tough measures which President Macapagal-Arroyo said are necessary because this is a matter of "national survival." There is even a plan to pass an emergency legislation against SARS, giving the President emergency powers including curtailing movement of people or putting under quarantine hospitals and communities infected by SARS.

These draconian measures are effective especially in Singapore, which has a small population and is enclosed in a small territory, or in Vietnam, where the authorities there have autocratic control. This probably helps explain why, despite the high infection toll in those countries, they are able to arrest effectively the spread of the virus.

SARS has also thrown the Asian economies in the same boat, sharing the misery that originated in Guangdong province, China. The Asian Development Bank the other day lowered the economic growth forecasts for Asia, as a result of the fallout from two shocks—SARS and the Iraq war. The ADB downgraded its GDP growth forecast for East Asia to 5.3 percent from 5.8 percent. The Philippines' GDP forecast for 2003 was trimmed to 4 percent from 4.5 percent. The World Bank has also shaved off growth forecasts for the region by a percentage point. But the ADB offered a consolation—the contraction will be of short duration and growth will bounce back after the epidemic has abated and the uncertainties left by the Iraq war clear up.

SARS is not all downside. If members of the Asean needed a shock to wake up again to the need to have a common purpose and to close ranks, the epidemic did it for them.

Protection at less than P1 a day

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AT P22 a pack, "Lady," a newly launched oral contraceptive that comes in a distinctive yellow pack, provides protection against pregnancy for less than P1 a day.

Marketed here by DKT International, with support from USAID, "Lady" is a low-dose oral contraceptive that, because it contains the smallest effective amount of contraceptive substances, substantially lowers the risk of side effects usually associated with pills. As the product insert notes, because oral contraceptives work by mimicking pregnancy, a woman on the pill "goes through the same early signs of pregnancy including nausea, heaviness of feet, dizziness, minor weight gain, etc." Though these side effects usually disappear within one or two months when the woman's body gets adjusted to the substances, these sometimes lead women to shift to another brand of pills or to another method, or stop using contraception altogether. With a low-dose pill like "Lady," the risk of side effects should be considerably reduced.

"Lady," then, addresses two major issues cited when women are asked why they refrain from or have stopped using contraception: cost and fear of side effects.

Let's tackle the first issue.

Even before "Lady" was introduced in the market, the cheapest brand, of oral contraceptives sold for P50 a packet. Even at this price, it wasn't a major expense, considering what many Filipinos look on as "essentials" for decent living, apart from food, clothing, shelter and sex, of course.

How much is a pack of cigarettes, for instance? Hope, the "*masa*" brand costs P25, while the higher-end Marlboro retails for P30. A *lapad* of Ginebra San Miguel sells for P24.50, while a bottle of San Miguel Beer can be bought for P12.50 (all prices care of the corner grocery). Clearly, a man who smokes or drinks can certainly afford to buy his wife or himself protection from an unwanted pregnancy.

WHAT about the things a woman would consider "essential"? A manicure goes for at least P50 these days, and if you pair that with a weekly pedicure, we're talking at least P400 a month. But if you, like me, have become addicted to foot spas, one procedure will set you back at least P400. Not to mention shelling out tips for the staff.

A movie ticket costs P60, although if you enjoy movie watching in upscale malls, a ticket is easily double that amount. And the popcorn ain't free. You'll also need P20 for an FX ride to the mall. Even dreaming, while free, demands you disburse P10 for every lotto ticket if you want those dreams to come true.

Let's move on to the issue of side effects. Dr. Jondi Flavier, who's with FriendlyCare Foundation and whom I spotted at the "Lady" launch and lassoed into an impromptu interview, says that because different brands of contraceptive pills have different formulations, a woman will experience different side effects of varying severity. It's only a question of finding the brand that best suits you, the one to which you're most "*hiyang*," Flavier said.

So instead of giving up on contraception entirely when one brand of pills gives you terrible migraines, the better course of action should be to go back to your nearest health center or clinic, tell the doctor, nurse or midwife your complaints and ask for either a different brand of pills or another method of contraception.

* * *

THE PILL, even a low-dose brand like "Lady," is not for every woman, or even for a pill user as she gets older. If you're more than 40 years old, a heavy smoker, or suffer from high blood pressure, diabetes, clotting disorders, migraine, asthma, epilepsy, TB, jaundice, heart and liver diseases, then the oral contraceptive pill might not be your method of first choice, at least without consulting a doctor first. And if you're not in a monogamous long-term relationship, then you might not need to be on a "long-term" family planning method. In fact, if you are into casual sex, then you'll certainly need protection from sexually transmitted infections as well, which only the condom can provide.

The good news is that there are so many other modern methods of family planning available. Even better news is that over the long term, these methods will prove to be even more "cost-effective" than the pill.

* * *

AT FRIENDLYCARE clinics, for instance, a woman or couple can obtain information, counseling and commodities at very reasonable prices. For the "Standard Days Method," a couple need only pay P60 for a consultation and P60 for the "necklace" which will help them keep track of the woman's safe and unsafe days. Injectables, which provide protection against pregnancy for up to three months, costs P60 initially for the consultation plus P50-60 per injection, which brings the monthly cost to no more than P20.

FriendlyCare charges P250 for counseling and insertion of an IUD, although the device itself comes free courtesy of the Department of Health. Considering that an IUD provides up to 10 years of protection, that amounts to only P25 for every year of protection!

Initially, the option for a permanent method, whether for a tubal ligation or a vasectomy, might seem expensive. At FriendlyCare a procedure costs P3,060, though the expense can be charged to PhilHealth. But given that it's permanent, and so could protect you from pregnancy for 20 or even 30 years, the monthly cost could range from P8.50 to P12.75!

Clearly, neither cost nor fear of side effects should deter a man, woman or a couple from using a family planning method of their choice. All it needs is a belief in responsible parenthood and sexual behavior, and the right order of priorities for one's life and for one's family.

Open letter to SARS czar Dayrit

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

SECOND only to the President, you bear the heaviest responsibility in the country today with the magnitude of the work ahead, unknown, just like SARS. Each in his own way, we will cooperate in whatever you do in this fight.

We have already stepped forward by calling a spade a spade, done with the "denial" stage. For a while we thought you were doing a China.

Now we all know : the symptoms, the countries involved, the figures each day, and for us Filipinos the sad tales of our four SARS cases. So aware is everybody that our maid, seeing a man with a mask in his balcony, blurted, "Ma'am *may* SARS *ata doon*!"

But what we still don't know is some basic information and the guarantee of its dissemination in Filipino, English and the vernaculars.

What telephone numbers can we call; what hotlines; what help can we expect? I hastily jotted down 7417048 before it disappeared from the TV screen, but beyond that, I must scour the PLDT directories.

What hospitals can we go to in the city and in the provinces? The Research Institute of Tropical Medicine (RITM) and San Lazaro have been named but exactly where are they located? San Lazaro may be a household word but who heard of RITM till now?

What are the capabilities of these hospitals? With a billion-peso standby fund, how many protective suits do they have, how many masks, gloves, etc., how much medicine in stock, how many doctors, nurses, caregivers (our present heroes, by the way); how many can be accommodated?

Where can we buy N95 masks? I copied telephone numbers posted at MMC for SARS masks. Yes, the lady on the other end said. We have model 8710 at P200 each and model 8210 (the recommended N95) at P250, but the N95 is out of stock. Even Mercury stores are "out of stock." So, where, oh where, and at what price, how can Juan and Juana de la Cruz buy even one mask?

How long is the recommended length of quarantine at the airport, at home, of communities? Seven, 10, 14 days? What can and cannot be done in quarantine? Is it true that alcohol and chlorox will help? That we must take a lot of Vitamin C and E? What about outfits who offer services to make homes "SARS-free"?

Maybe we can't do anything about the virulence of SARS. That's not in our hands. Talk to people and they'll say they're more afraid of SARS than the war. Iraq is peanuts; at least we know where it is. But SARS is "strike anywhere" and with no known medicine--yet.

But we can do something about at least three factors that are in our hands. To nip contagion before it starts: the airport, our behavioral culture and media, are crucial. The first two demand discipline and the third must be aggressively harnessed.

No doubt about it, the airport (and the seaports too) is the entrance gate for SARS. Our OFWs who will trickle or pour back home are the main carriers. With maximum understanding for whatever reasons they come back, they must be thoroughly checked or quarantined before they fan out into every corner of the Philippines. Of our four confirmed cases, "three came from abroad while one [was due to] local transmission." Are all arrivals given guidelines and hotlines as claimed? What is this we hear of about lackadaisical check ups? "All must be found" says WHO and the airport is the starting point.

By now, Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon whom I much admire must be sorry for that thoughtless suggestion enticing tourists to come over, like what—for 30 pieces of silver? In fact we should perhaps bar tourists from SARS-hit countries.

Considering our behavioral culture, surveillance and the law must be merciless. Filipinos are known to be *puslit and lusot* artists, lovers of family and clan, social beings who must *pasyal* and party, believers of *bahala na*, optimists who believe anybody else can get it, but "not me," masters in making light of serious matters ("The virus can't stand our pollution and the heat"). We will find ways to evade the law and we will circulate until caught or infected.

The information drive needs no less than a media blitz -tabloids, TV, radio, movie houses, posters, leaflets. "But we don't want the people to panic." Lame excuse. Harness the wordsmiths in media and advertising who will package a campaign that will allay fears, spread information, not paranoia, and determine the frequency of dissemination to avoid overkill. They will know what to do. Emily Abrera, we need you.

A czar's "sweeping powers" can bring together the principal players in this drama: suppliers, media and ad gurus, printers, etc. for a coordinated campaign.

I shudder to think what could happen if SARS spreads. Let's not even talk of squatter colonies, but of crowded districts like Paco, Sampaloc, Tondo.

Jaime Cardinal Sin has turned to prayer. Many hope for divine intervention, but only when we do what we have to do. By the way, what is this sinister rumor that the SARS virus was genetically produced?

Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist. Comments to marda@info.com.ph; fax 8210659

Reading with the kids

HIGH BLOOD

Eufemia C. Estrada

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

LEARNING is a never-ending process. And it works both ways—for the learner and the teacher.

Perhaps that is why I stuck to teaching for 38 years and when I got into a second trajectory, writing a cooking column, it was a teaching column: how to prepare different dishes.

Today, in my 70s, I have retired from writing a cooking column but the learning process continues. This time reading with my grandnephew, Noel, and grandnieces Nana and Mickee.

Noel, who is 6, is not into storybooks. One of the few storybooks he liked was "Mushrooms in the Rain," because we could act out the creatures crowding under an umbrella, a pretend mushroom growing in the rain.

Another book he liked was: "Where Are You Going, Little Mouse?" because he could answer, "No" every time the runaway mouse was asked, "Have you found them?"

Then I introduced the kids to the book, "Insect World," A Child's First Library of Learning by Time-Life. Together, day after day, we pored over mind-boggling questions like: Why do only female mosquitos bite? Why do cicadas spray you? Why does a dragonfly dip its tail into the water? Why does everyone hate cockroaches? and the like.

How much handling the favorite book has undergone is evident in the missing pages and tattered condition of the hardbound book.

Then we got hooked on butterflies. I had an old bag where I kept all the books I had collected on these topics which I brought along every time I came for a visit.

We learned among other things that butterfly eggs are the size of a pinhead and are not always round depending on the specie; that butterflies smell through their antenna; that butterflies start out as wriggly, hungry "worms" and metamorphose into beautiful, colorful butterflies; that butterflies can protect themselves from predators through such devices as natural camouflage (the color of leaves, for example); that it takes a spider one hour to spin a web.

One of Noel's favorite pictures in one of my butterfly books which he describes as "cool," is that of a little boy in overalls peering into his butterfly net to see if he had caught any butterflies. This would send him giggling. But he got the message: don't chase butterflies!

Together we have gone on field trips to the butterfly gardens at the Quezon Memorial Circle (now it's at the Manila Seedling Bank), at the Assumption in Antipolo, in Pulilan, Bulacan and in Subic.

There the kids saw not only varied colored butterflies but liberally splashed with floral cologne; they had the thrill of butterflies alighting on their heads, arms or clothes.

Noel was wary of these alighting butterflies but the girls just loved it. A butterfly even laid an egg on one of the girls' heads. We know, because it curled its abdomen as it does when it is laying eggs.

Butterflies used to breed in my potted *lemoncito* plants in my balcony. I even had the rare opportunity of seeing a butterfly emerge from its pupa, rest its wet wings and take off when they had dried. To me the sight of my *lemoncito* plants bare of leaves was always a welcome sight. But one afternoon I caught the maid, oh the maid, picking out the "worms" eating all the leaves. "Those are not worms. They are caterpillars!" I lectured her. But when the butterflies stopped breeding because of the pollution I gave away my plants to the three kids. Over at UP Village, for a while, the kids would show me the caterpillars eating their way through the *lemoncito* plants. But it seems they fell prey to the neighborhood birds. (Today, the *lemoncito* plants are lush and idle and gone are the butterflies.)

This summer we have already had two topics of interest to pursue—ships and boats and seashells.

From the book "How Things Work, Ships, Boats, Submarines and Other Floating Machines," we saw different kinds of seacraft and got stymied, temporarily, by Noel's wondering out loud how come a ship does not sink when it's made of metal. A poser, he, thankfully, answered himself, "I know, I know. Because of the water pressure." The book, you see, contains simple experiments using everyday things like empty bottles and drinking straws to prove certain relevant facts.

The latest craze is seashells. Earlier, Nana, 8, had received a couple of shells from my sister's collection. She was brushing them with an old toothbrush when I dropped by recently. When they came over to spend the day we had to set aside the house rule: Do not touch the collectibles. But Nana and Noel handle my shells very carefully, cupping them in their hands as if they were treasures. Even my fragile sea urchin.

The two were especially excited when they saw an eggshell cowrie of Colgate toothpaste fame, in my collection.

This was when Nana dropped one of her "when you go' bombshells. "Lola Femy, when you go, when you die (she adds in a whisper), can you give me something to remember you by?"

"What?" I ask when I finally find my voice

"Your shells."

Well, what else is new. Earlier it was, "Lola Femy, when you die, can I have your house? Ours is so old."

Anyway, with my books on shells we set out to identify among my shells: cowries from the tiny *sigay* or money cowrie we use for our Bingo games to the big tiger cowries our grandparents used when darning socks (a lost art), helmets, tritons, moon shells, cones (which they learn are poisonous), and what catches their imagination most, carrier shells or the original shell collector, shells which attach dead shells to their exterior.

Mickee, who is 11 going on 12, loves the big "Book of Jokes." She has made a collection for every day of the week, for example: What is the favorite day of the astronauts? MOONday. A joke, a knock, knock joke and a tongue twister.

I find it useful too. Noel has only one joke in his repertoire: Why did the chicken cross the road? I can now counter this with: Why can't the three bears enter the house? Because Goldi lock(s) it. And I have a new knock, knock joke for him too: Knock, knock, Who's there? Tennis. Tennis who? Ten is half of twenty. He learns arithmetic.

Who knows what our next lesson will be? Noel is teaching me how to play chess and gleefully eats my pawn with a triumphant, "You didn't see that!" When I make a wrong move. Perhaps it will be on how to use the computer which they have learned without any "how to" manuals to befuddle them.

On one of my birthdays, one of my nephews gave me a book, "101 Ways to Stay Young" with this inscription: "To a Tita who never grows old."

My secret. Keep learning along with the kids. Better than any therapy.

Eufemia C. Estrada, 73, used to write a column for the Lifestyl section of the In[illegible] titled "Cooking Made E

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Assembly 'survey' is an old trick

THE FIRST day of the resumption of Congress' session after Holy Week greeted us with the news that a "national survey" showed a majority of Filipinos supporting the convening of a constituent assembly to amend the Constitution. (PDI, 4/20/03) The problem here is that the group that came up with the data didn't say who did the survey, what sampling methodology it used, and generally, how reliable its so-called survey was.

Similarly, an unidentified source also reportedly claimed that 10 senators already support the constituent assembly idea and they need only two more. But we know that all these is an old propaganda trick: announcing something that cannot be checked, and hope that it generates a bandwagon effect. We should be wary of such political surveys because such "studies" are so easily misinterpreted, twisted, spun and used to deceive the larger public. (Of course, we also know that stringing together the word "according to," "recent" and "survey" gives more weight to even the emptiest of propositions.)

The reality is quite different however. The forces ranged against the House assembly proposal are formidable. President Macapagal-Arroyo, 14 senators, and most civil society and media leaders support elections for a Constitutional Convention (ConCon) at the time of the 2004 elections. Other leaders including former President Cory Aquino and Jaime Cardinal Sin publicly oppose the proposal and its twin, NOEL (No Elections). Despite this, the House passed a constituent assembly resolution by a large margin.

What considerations can break the overwhelming advantage of the constituent convention proposal in public and political leader support? Speaker Jose de Venecia and the other assembly architects—Sen. Ed Angara and Danding Cojuangco—refuse to bury the assembly proposal because it is being held in reserve in case the presidential maneuvers do not produce the political arrangement most favorable to their interests.

For the first time since the ratification of the 1987 Constitution 16 years ago, there is near universal consensus on the need to amend the Constitution. A combination of reformers from all walks of life, and politicians who are unhappy with the existing political system all agree on constitutional reform. If this historic opportunity to make far-ranging political reforms is missed this time, it may be six or more years before the process can be started again. De Venecia and Angara played key roles in sustaining the momentum for Charter change in the past year. It would be ironic if they were the ones who killed Charter change because they refused to give up on an assembly proposal that should have been buried together with NOEL a long time ago.

—JOEL ROCAMORA,
executive director,
Institute for Popular Democracy,
Citizens for ConCon 2004

Correct amount of German debt condoned

THANK you for featuring the accomplishments of the government in the April 24 issue of the INQUIRER ("Germany condones P82M in debt deal") on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' RP-German Community Forestry Project in Quirino province, which was instrumental in the recent cancellation of a sizeable part of the Philippine government's debt to the Federal Republic of Germany.

However, allow us to clarify that what was cancelled was not only P82 million but P371.9 million. For instituting the successful community-based forestry program for upland communities in Quirino, the German government cancelled part of the country's debt to Germany, amounting to DM12,775,044.82 (US$7.087 million) or P371.91 million.

The debt cancellation was a result of the RP-German Consolidation Agreement signed on July 30, 1992 under the Debt-for-Nature Swap Initiative Program (DFNSIP) and the Separate Agreement signed on Oct. 31, 1996 for the implementation of the project under the auspices of the DENR.

The agreement calls for the writing off of the debt through the utilization of 30 percent of the debt amount or DM3,832,512—equivalent to P82 million—as funding for the Quirino project before the end of March 2003.

So instead of paying Germany P82 million as part of the entire P371.9-million debt—which was not incurred necessarily by the DENR but by the national government—Germany allowed the Philippine government to use this amount to fund the forestry project from July 1999 to March 2003 in 10 barangays in the municipalities of Maddela, Nagtipunan, Aglipay and Diffun.

The project implemented measures for the protection of the environment and the sustainable use of the natural resources in Quirino, with emphasis on biodiversity conservation, sustained through the efforts of local communities.

The success of the project has stirred international interest as a model project since this was the first German debt-for-nature swap program for the forestry sector worldwide.

Environment Secretary Elisea G. Gozun hopes to strike similar debt-for-nature swap ventures with other countries to reduce our country's debt, ensure sustainable management of the environment and help local communities at the same time.

—IRMA S. PAULME,
officer in charge,
Public Affairs Office,
Department of Environment
and Natural Resources,
Visayas Avenue, Diliman,
Quezon City

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

Are we ready for a worst-case SARS scenario?

I AM a concerned citizen worried about the impact of a SARS epidemic in our country and would like to call the attention of our government especially the Department of Health to the danger of having the San Lazaro Hospital care for SARS victims.

SARS is a highly contagious disease. Why do our government officials want to make San Lazaro run the risk of being quarantined (like some hospitals in Beijing and Taipei due to the number of SARS patients), when there are many indigent patients sick of other kinds of illnesses in the same complex and depending on its facilities? The vast population outside the premises of San Lazaro would also stand the risk of being contaminated and doesn't this mean a real danger to the rest of Metro Manila?

Wouldn't it be better if one isolated building inside the Quezon Institute on España Extension is dedicated to SARS patients or some such facility which would ensure containment and control? I dread the day when our country will have a crisis equal, if not surpassing, that of Hong Kong.

If a place like Hong Kong, which has the financial resources to care for its SARS victims and pump money into businesses affected by the SARS crisis, is feeling the strain from this epidemic, it could be worse for us in the Philippines where the local officials in Alcala, Pangasinan are already having a difficult time feeding and enforcing the quarantine in their barangay with their limited resources. Can you imagine the hysteria if the barangays surrounding San Lazaro have to be quarantined?

Are we prepared and ready for this type of a calamity? Why not act before it is too late?

—SYLVIA TI,
itma@info.com.ph

We must stop stealing

I AM a proprietor of a small-town hardware store. As such, I am privy to how business is transacted by many local officials. Reading Dr. Alejandro W. Clemente's "Do not steal" article (PDI, 4/30/03) strikes a resonant chord in me as I have seen the many hocus-pocus done by these officials.

It is no wonder that the poorest among the poor are found in the far-flung barangays. These people whom the idealists call the backbone of the nation are more burdened by the shameless yoke of corruption in the government than all the El Niños and locust-attacks combined.

My recent encounter with this hanky-panky was with an NGO project for women's health. The store received a canvassing form for a bid on materials and on that same day a lady, who I found out later to be the barangay president in the NGO project, came to collect the canvassing form.

But because there were several items I had to research on, I offered to submit the sealed bid by myself to the office the following Monday to spare her any inconvenience. However, she insisted on getting it because she said she had to submit it right away or else the funding for it would be forfeited. That was a Saturday and therefore no offices were open.

When she couldn't get it the second time she came (after 30 minutes), the lady wanted to withdraw the canvas form, filled up or not, as her husband, the barangay head, had told her we would no longer take part in the bidding.

By then, I could already guess what they were up to especially when, the husband himself showed up in the store and scolded us for being sloppy in filling up the form.

I submitted the bid personally.

Luckily for us, the NGO office conducted the bidding in accordance with its ideals and policies for providing better health to marginalized women in Mindanao. Aboveboard, no deals, no cuts unlike government biddings.

The two, it was proven later, conspired to a *lutong-macao* deal for a cut. But they were not lucky that time.

In short, I was awarded the bidding.

After calling us names in their anger, the couple wrote us a letter asking for an outright 10-percent commission.

Corruption at this level is simply a microcosm of a systematic rot in our midst. Yes, Dr. Clemente, the only way to move forward is for the government, business and the citizenry to answer in the negative the question you raised: Shall we or shall we not steal?

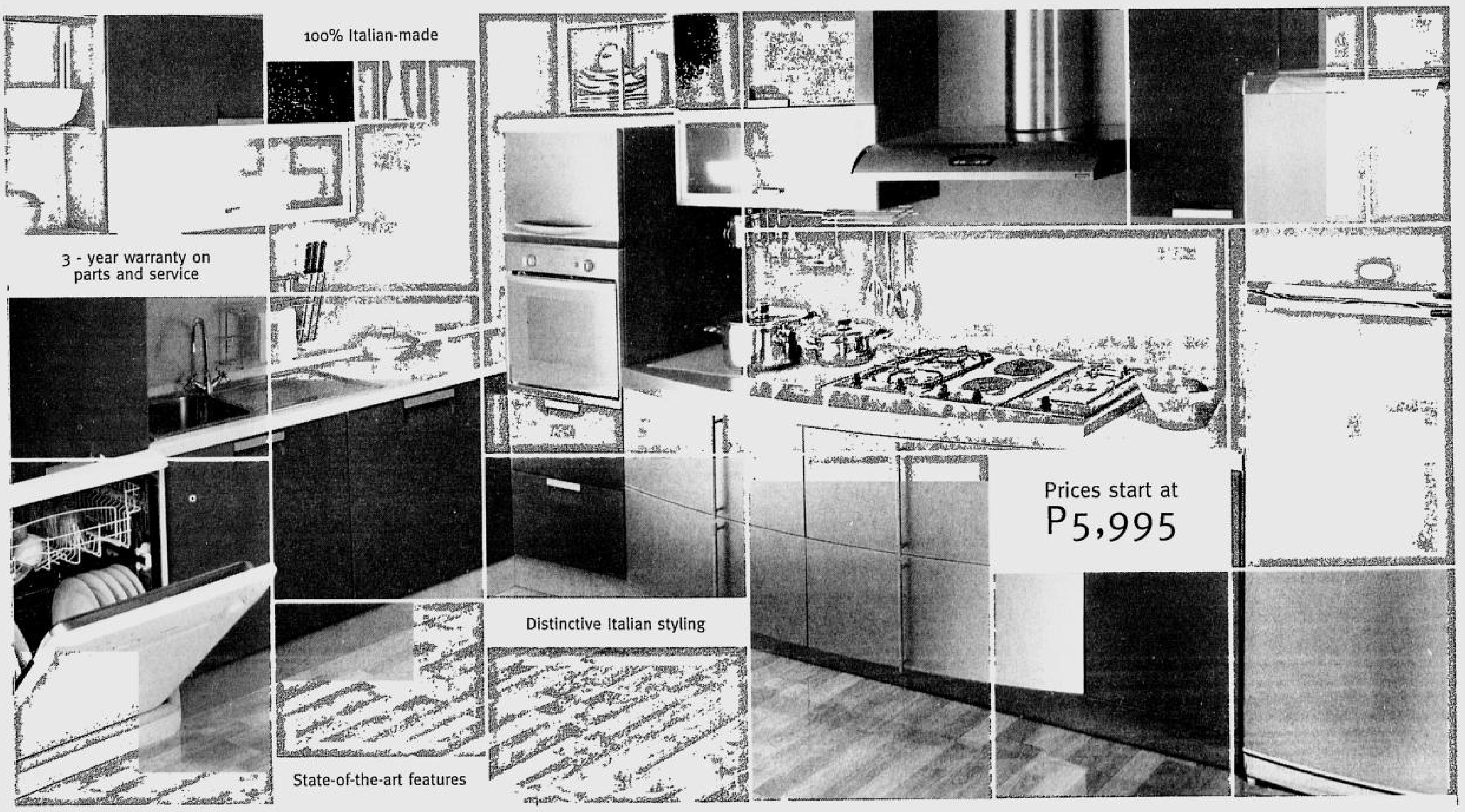
When corruption is practiced by those above you, the realization of how widespread and taken for granted it is, hits you twice harder. Dr. Clemente said it right that Filipinos only pay lip service to calls for discipline, unity and service as they maneuver to find ways to enrich themselves. There are enough accounts out there to convince all of us.

But despite these, the country could still move forward for we still have a very rare species who do not steal. I know. I have met them, as a store owner and a former teacher in a prestigious school in the past.

—FLOR S. TEMPLE,
Misamis Oriental

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.



100% Italian-made
3 - year warranty on parts and service
Prices start at P5,995
Distinctive Italian styling
State-of-the-art features

Sophisticated styling at down-to-earth prices from Italy's premier appliance manufacturer.
Pick and choose from a gallery of kitchen appliances and accessories to create your own dream kitchen. Prices start at P5,995.

Other rangehood models available in 60cm and 90cm; slim and decorative types; white and stainless steel. Other built-in hobs available in 30cm, 60cm, 75cm, and 90cm; gas and electric; stainless steel finish. Other built-in ovens available in 60cm and 90cm; gas and electric; stainless steel finish.

Kitchen display courtesy of Deutsche Kuche. Call 633-29-06.

Shangri-la Showroom: (02) 631-82-82 • Megamall Showroom: (02) 637-74-58 • Anson Arcade Showroom: (02) 887-0075

ARISTON
Italian Designer Kitchens
www.aristonchannel.com

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

AN IRAQI schoolboy walks past a pile of unexploded mortar rounds in a field in Basra, Iraq, April 28. The field, which lies next to a field where children play soccer, is filled with the rounds left behind by the fleeing Iraqi Army. AP

US troops fire on Iraqi crowd, kill 15–Al-Jazeera

BAGHDAD—Al-Jazeera television reported on Tuesday that US troops had fired on a crowd west of Baghdad, killing 15 Iraqis, as the United States announced it was sending more troops to boost security in the capital.

The report by the Arabic satellite television station could not be independently confirmed. It said 50 people were also wounded in the shooting at Falluja, 50 km west of Baghdad.

US forces announced they were holding Saddam Hussein's veteran oil minister, Amir Muhammed Rasheed, whose wife is bioweapons scientist Rihab Taha—widely known as Dr Germ.

He was number 47 on a US list of the 55 most wanted members of Saddam's administration and the six of spades in a deck of cards issued to American troops hunting former Iraqi leaders.

The United States has now captured 14 of those on the list.

Leading Iraqis agreed at a meeting on Monday with the US administrator of postwar Iraq to hold a conference within four weeks to choose an interim government, ushering in democracy after three decades of Saddam's iron rule.

But US forces still face pockets of resistance and have had problems asserting control in some parts of Iraq. They said they killed at least six Iraqi fighters in the northern city of Mosul during a heavy firefight on Monday evening.

Al-Jazeera, which is based in Qatar, said US soldiers fired on a crowd after someone threw a stone at them.

The channel, which is widely watched across the Arab world, did not specify the source of its information.

US Central Command in Qatar said it had no information and US Army commanders in Baghdad were not available to comment.

Jazeera's Baghdad correspondent said up to 200 people had finished Muslim evening prayers at a mosque and answered a call by preachers to protest against US troops in Iraq.

US troops were widely welcomed for overthrowing Saddam Hussein but many Iraqis are now anxious for them to go home.

The US military said in Baghdad it was moving reinforcements to the capital.

Major General Glenn Webster said 3,000 to 4,000 infantry and military policemen would be sent over the next seven to 10 days.

The United States already has 12,000 troops in Baghdad, with 150,000 more in other parts of Iraq.

"The coalition command is the single authority in Iraq at this time and our purpose is to provide security and stability in the country so the people of Iraq can elect their own leaders and get the country running again," Webster told reporters.

He said this was not connected to any specific incident.

US Central Command in Qatar said in a statement that former oil minister Rasheed had surrendered on Monday. It gave no details.

Rasheed ran Iraq's military industries until becoming oil minister in 1995. His wife, known as "Dr. Germ," is not on the most wanted list but US forces are keen to interview her about her role in Saddam's alleged attempts to develop biological warfare systems.

Rasheed was last seen by journalists at Baghdad's Doura oil refinery on March 25, surrounded by burning pits of oil as bombs fell on nearby Baghdad.

Saddam's fate remain a mystery. His sons Qusay and Uday have also not been found, nor have the weapons of mass destruction which the United States said were a major justification for the war. *Reuters*

Iraqis pledge to install interim gov't in 4 weeks

BAGHDAD—As Iraqi leaders agree to try to form an interim government within a month, thousands of angry Shiites rallied demanding more influence over the country's future.

The Baghdad meeting of around 250 delegates with Jay Garner, the retired US general running Iraq, took place Monday, on the 66th birthday of toppled president Saddam Hussein, whose fate and whereabouts remain a mystery.

It also coincided with a trip to the Gulf by US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who said US forces in the region could now be reduced.

Delegates in Baghdad agreed to hold a national congress within four weeks to elect the first Iraqi government since the fall of Saddam's regime on April 9.

The assembly, however, was split over the duration of the US occupation of Iraq.

"Hopefully, we will have this national meeting that will select or elect the interim authority," said Zalmay Khalilzad, the US envoy to Iraq's emerging political movements.

"The decision here was to do the government within four weeks. There's a strong message to the coalition from the participants that an Iraqi government needs to be formed as quickly as possible," he said.

Shiite and Sunni religious leaders, Kurdish officials, tribal dignitaries, farmers and businessmen joined longtime exiles at the meeting, the second in a series of gatherings to map Iraq's political destiny.

"It is our responsibility to start the process of the birth of democracy in Iraq here today," Garner told the assembly.

But there were sharp divisions within the assembly over the duration of the US occupation, as well as the role Islam should play in a new government.

While some, including many exiles, appeared to favor a quick US exit, others who endured Saddam's brutal rule were skeptical over their own readiness to lead the nation.

"We here prefer the Americans to rule us in the interim period. We are not ready to handle this yet," said Suheil al-Suheil, a Baghdad lawyer: "Saddam's orphans are still alive." President George W. Bush vowed to see Iraq through to a full democracy, and said the US-led occupation was already improving the lives of Iraqis.

"Iraq can be an example of peace and prosperity and freedom to the entire Middle East," he said in a speech to a primarily Arab-American crowd in Dearborn, Michigan, where there is a large Iraqi community.

"It'll be a hard journey, but every step of the way, Iraq will have a steady friend in the American people," he said.

Bush's speech was aimed as much at the Middle East as the US Midwest.

Yet many Iraqis have expressed frustration over the US-led military occupation, as well as the lack of a firm date for the forces to leave.

"We thank the forces that have freed us from the dictatorship," said tribal leader Hussein Shaanan, "but now we'd like them to leave as soon as possible."

The Baghdad meeting had tremendous symbolic power for many Iraqis, falling on the day that has normally been reserved for massive state-backed demonstrations to mark Saddam's birthday during his 24-year dictatorship.

Joyous crowds in the Sadr neighborhood of Baghdad subverted the orchestrated past birthday celebrations, dressing up a donkey as Saddam.

"For the first time in my life, I won't be forced to attend Saddam's birthday ceremonies. He was a dictator, he was nothing but a donkey ruling over Iraq," said Ali, a 24-year-old. *AFP*

Wahid defends singer

JAKARTA—Former president Abdurrahman Wahid has come to the defense of hugely popular Indonesian singer Inul Daratista, whose dance style has been condemned as erotic by several Muslim leaders.

Wahid was answering criticism from Islamic preacher and rock star Rhoma Irama, who has branded Inul's dance style as "haram" or forbidden by the religion.

Wahid—himself a Muslim cleric—said Irama was obstructing freedom of expression in the name of religion, Tuesday's Media Indonesia daily reported.

Islamic authorities in several provinces have banned Inul from performing. But Wahid said Inul's dance was part of her artistic expression and was not illegal. *AFP*

BOSE®
Better sound through research.
www.bose.com

321 Home Theater System

BOSE STORES
SM Megamall: Tel. No. 634-8484 to 85
SM City North Edsa: Tel. No. 926-80-34
Robinson's Place Ermita: Tel. No. 536-2668
Festival Supermall: Tel. No. 850-3638
Enzo Bldg.: (Jaguar Showroom) Tel. No. 897-8888
Power Plant Mall: Tel. No. 898-2048

email: customer_service@eleksis.com

Hear a demo, hear the difference.

The DiY SHOP
COOL SUMMER GIVEAWAYS
APRIL 30 - MAY 29

NIKON DESK FAN
- 406.4mm (16") Heavy Duty
- 3-Speed Control
- Full 90° oscillation
- Push button rotating switch

ASAHI EXHAUST FAN
- Promo good while supply last
- 203.20mm(8") heavy duty
- Hassle-free installation

HONEYWELL TURBO FAN 8"
Aerodynamic
- Light and unique compact design
- Silent type

KOBE CAR COVER
SUV
AUV

BLACK&DECKER GRASS TRIMMER
GL-225
- Manual line feed-pull out more line as required
- Unique design for strain free, single handled operation

POWER BUY!
NIKON
- 5" fan
- AM/FM radio
- Double Lamp Tubes
- LCD clock
- Built-in AC charger
- Buzzer alarm when low-bat
P349.75
Reg. P500.00

RUBBERMAID ICE CHEST COOLER
35Qrts.
- Available in blue and red colors

KCT PORTABLE HOSE REEL
KHR-230A
- Light and easy to use
- Reinforced-withstands high pressure
- Compact easy storage
Free! ½" x 25M. HOSE

PAINT & DECORATING • OUTDOOR LIVING • PLUMBING • ELECTRICALS & WIRINGS • HOME & OFFICE FURNITURES • HOUSEWARES • HOME & OFFICE SAFETY SYSTEMS • HAND & POWERTOOLS • CAR CARE & ACCESSORIES & MUCH, MUCH MORE.

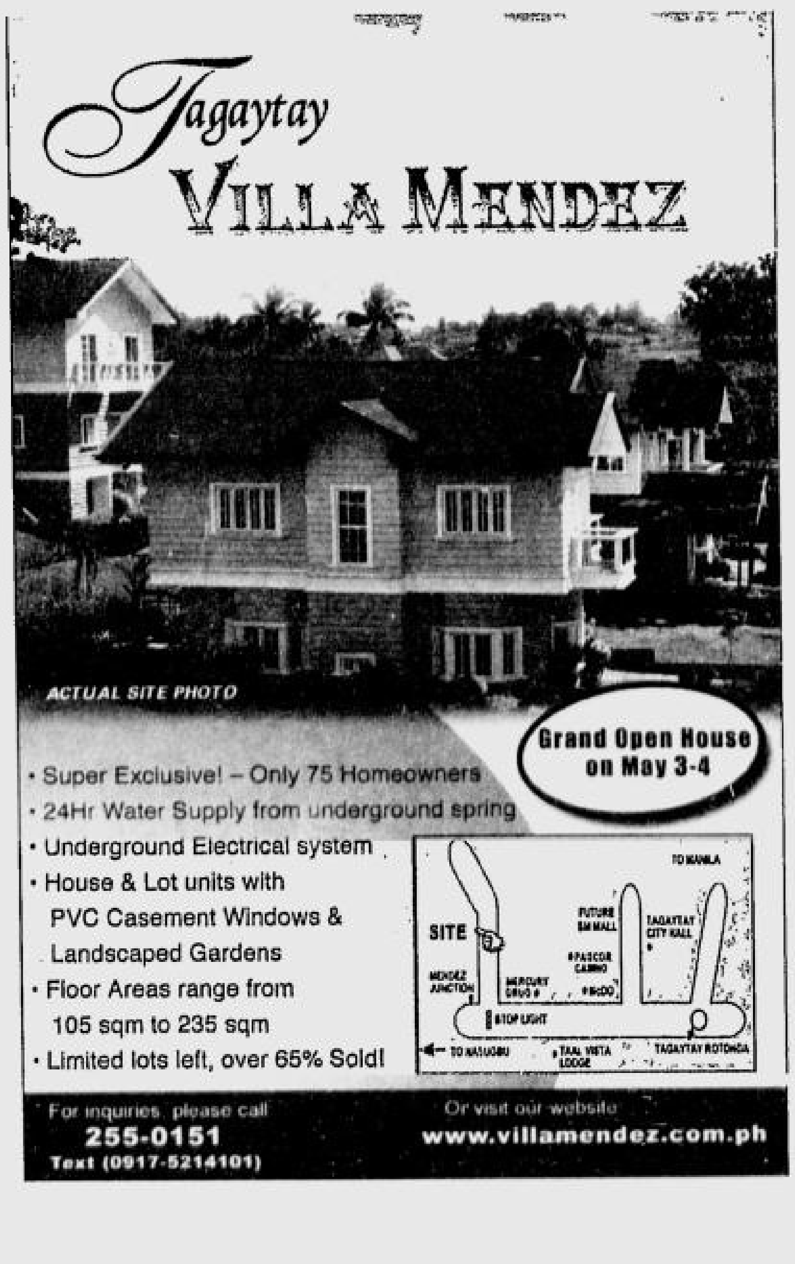
SONIPRO 4pcs. GARDEN TOOLS SET

TIGER POWER SPRAYER
TH-22A
- 1.5 Horse Power
- High Power Motor
- 21-40 kg/cm pressure

SOON TO OPEN! Greenbelt and Angeles Branch
• BRANCHES •
• Greenhills Shopping Ctr. - 721-0293 • Ever (Ortigas) - 666-9114 • Ever (Commonwealth) - 925-2493 • Metrotown (Tarlac) - (045)928-2343 • CSI- Citymall (Dagupan) - (075)515-5909 • Magicmall (Urdaneta) - (075)568-6118 • Cooyeesan (Baguio) - (074)444-2688 • Abanao (Baguio) - (074)446-4505 • Target Mall (Sta. Rosa) - (049)534-1380 • Robertson Mall (Naga) (054)811-7645

The DiY SHOP
Your (Do-It-Yourself) Home Improvement Center

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 0683 Series of 2003



Tagaytay
VILLA MENDEZ
ACTUAL SITE PHOTO
Grand Open House on May 3-4
- Super Exclusive! – Only 75 Homeowners
- 24Hr Water Supply from underground spring
- Underground Electrical system
- House & Lot units with PVC Casement Windows & Landscaped Gardens
- Floor Areas range from 105 sqm to 235 sqm
- Limited lots left, over 65% Sold!

For inquiries, please call
255-0151
Text (0917-5214101)
Or visit our website
www.villamendez.com.ph

YOUNG GUARD PASSES OLD
An unidentified Afghan boy marches during a military parade in Kabul, April 28. The parade was held to mark the toppling of the government headed by Mohammad Najibullah on April 28, 1992. AP

Nokor: Talks useless without US concessions

SEOUL/WASHINGTON—North Korea said on Tuesday more US-North Korea talks would be pointless if Washington insists Pyongyang disarm and rejects the North's offer to scrap its atomic arms in return for concessions.

US officials in Washington and Western diplomats in Beijing said on Monday North Korea had offered at talks in China last week to give up its nuclear weapons and missile exports but wanted a shopping list of concessions in return.

A senior US official called those concessions unacceptable.

"We're not going to pay for elimination of nuclear weapons programs that never should have been there in the first place," said State Department spokesperson Richard Boucher in Washington.

Predictably, that did not go down well in Pyongyang.

"It is quite obvious that as long as the US maintains such a stand, the two sides will only waste time no matter how frequently they negotiate," said Minju Joson, a newspaper published by the North Korean cabinet.

North Korea's KCNA news agency went further, saying Washington's stance that it will not "reward" Pyongyang was a mark of ignorance among Bush administration policymakers.

"This cannot be construed otherwise than ridiculous jargons of political imbeciles," it said. "These silly remarks only go to prove that US policymakers are totally ignorant of the DPRK."

DPRK are the initials of the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The US State Department said on Monday North Korea told US officials in Beijing during three days of talks last week, that included China, that Pyongyang had nuclear arms. North Korea has yet to repeat this publicly.

Western diplomats briefed by a Chinese Foreign Ministry official in Beijing said North Korea had warned of "extraordinary measures" if the United States played its "usual tricks."

Asked about the briefing, US Secretary of State Colin Powell said: "They did put forward a plan that would ultimately deal with their nuclear capability and their missile activities but they of course expect something considerable in return."

A senior US official said North Korea offered to give up nuclear weapons and scrap its ballistic missile program in exchange for US concessions including oil, energy, economic exchanges and normal relations.

South Korean Foreign Minister Yoon Young-kwan confirmed in parliament on Tuesday North Korea had offered to resolve the nuclear crisis on condition Washington guarantees the survival of Pyongyang's communist system. He did not comment on the offer.

Yoon will brief foreign diplomats later, and they will be particularly keen to gauge whether Seoul leans toward Beijing's assessment of the outcome or Washington's. China now faces its own dilemma—whether to back long-time ally North Korea or back the US line on dismantling Pyongyang's declared atomic arsenal. *Reuters*

Menem, rival in Argentina vote showdown

BUENOS AIRES—Former playboy president Carlos Menem will run off against a rival from his Peronist party in a second round vote to decide who will lead Argentina out of economic crisis.

Menem won most votes in Sunday's first round, but the 24.34 percent was not enough to claim an immediate victory and he must now battle Nestor Kirchner, a provincial governor backed by outgoing president Eduardo Duhalde, on May 18. Kirchner drew 21.99 percent of the vote.

While Kirchner's camp promised an all-out onslaught, the 72-year-old Menem said he was coming back to "rescue the country from disaster."

"Sixteen months ago, this presidential candidate and current president—because I already consider myself as such—was condemned and defamed, without a fair trial," he told supporters at a Buenos Aires hotel after the vote closed.

Menem spent 167 days under house arrest while authorities investigated charges of illegal weapons sales to Ecuador and Croatia during his presidency.

As president between 1989 and 1999, Menem imposed strict International Monetary Fund-style economic policies. He is identified with a period in Argentina's history when the currency was pegged to the dollar and unemployment was low.

But some also accuse him paving the way for Argentina's economic collapse. Others say Menem's presidencies were synonymous with scandal, corruption, and badly managed privatization.

Kirchner's finish forced neoliberal economist Ricardo Lopez Murphy (16.35 percent), social Christian candidate Elisa Carrio (14.15 percent) and 14 other candidates out of the competition.

Voter turnout was high, at 80 percent of the 25.5 million voters, despite predictions of apathy in this crisis-weary country with growing

AFP

India, Pakistan PMs talk on phone in sign of thaw

NEW DELHI/ISLAMABAD—The prime ministers of India and Pakistan discussed by phone on Monday ways to improve relations, in the first high-level talks between the nuclear-armed rivals since they came close to war last year.

A Pakistani government statement said Pakistani Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali also invited Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee to visit Islamabad.

"The telephone call breaks the 18-month-old impasse between the two countries," the statement said.

India and Pakistan have not held formal talks since July 2001 and came close to war last year over disputed Kashmir, mostly Hindu India's only Muslim-majority state.

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf and Vajpayee met informally at a regional summit in Katmandu in January 2002.

Official sources in New Delhi declined comment on the invitation to Islamabad but said Jamali had telephoned Vajpayee to welcome his offer earlier this month to hold peace talks.

"The two prime ministers discussed ways of moving forward bilateral relations," one Indian official source said of the 10-minute conversation.

"Prime Minister Vajpayee suggested in this context improvement of economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, people-to-people contacts and civil aviation links," he said.

"They agreed to consider this as a start."

India and Pakistan severed road and air links and downgraded their embassies after an attack in December 2001 on India's parliament which New Delhi blamed on Pakistan-based Kashmiri separatists. Islamabad denied involvement.

Both countries have been under intense pressure from Washington to ease tensions.

Earlier this month Vajpayee said he was willing to have talks with Pakistan, but said Islamabad would first have to end support for Muslim militants based in Pakistan-controlled territory, fighting Indian rule in Kashmir.

Pakistan denies Indian allegations that it helps militants infiltrate into Indian Kashmir to join a 13-year-old separatist revolt there and says it gives only moral support to what it calls the Kashmiri "freedom struggle."

The Pakistan government statement said that Jamali welcomed Vajpayee's offer of talks "and reiterated Pakistan's readiness for a dialogue with India at any level."

It said Jamali had said he hoped such a dialogue would address all outstanding issues, including Kashmir. He invited Vajpayee to visit Pakistan and also offered to visit India.

Indian analysts said the tentative thaw in relations might reflect pressure from Washington, which is sending Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage to the region next month, but that full peace talks were still a long way away. *Reuters*

96.3 LITE WRocK and Elev8 Productions presents

Me and Mom

Have an early Mother's Day celebration on May 1, Thursday from 1.00 to 5.00 PM at SM City North EDSA.

Be one of the 20 lucky mother and child tandem to participate in fun and games for a chance to win faboulous gifts and prizes.

ME AND MOM LOOK ALIKE CONTEST
The mother and child who looks most alike wins.

HOW WELL DO I KNOW MOM?
Take the quiz to test your Mom trivia IQ

DEAR MOM
On-the-Spot Letter Writing Contest
Express how much you love your Mom through words

PORTRAIT OF ME AND MOM
On-the-Spot Drawing Contest
Illustrate your most memorable moment with Mom

FEEL MOM
Be the first to find your Mom while blind-folded just by feeling her face

Sponsored by
SMARTY TOYS Sylvanian Families CLUB Six Flags Disney Vaseline VOCHELLE.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Robinsons Baby Shots 2003
PHOTO CONTEST
1st Quarter WINNERS

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
DHAZTINE SHAENUEL TICSAY
JULIA MARIE CINCO
JASMINE MARIE BILON
FLORIDA BLANCA,PAMPANGA
TONDO,MANILA
MARIKINA CITY

FROM
Sterling Acefree PHOTO ALBUM & Kodak PRODUCTS
Robinsons Department Store

For only P300-worth of single-transaction purchase of Sterling Acefree baby or character albums at any Robinsons Department Store branch, you can get your baby (aged 3 mos. - 2 yrs) to join the contest.

Fill up the application form available with the album, attach a 4R photo of your baby printed on Kodak paper from a Kodak film, and drop in drop box or send to : "*Robinsons Baby Shots 2003", c/o Sterling Paper Products Ent. Inc., 111 Lapu-lapu St., Kalookan City 1400.*

ALSO BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
little tikes & Alvin O. Navarro photography
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0100 Series of 2003

HURRY! YOUR BABY CAN BE THE NEXT WINNER!
SEE POSTERS FOR MORE DETAILS.

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: pdimında@dv.weblinq.com

SC affirms death penalty on traders' kidnappers

By Delmar Cariño
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Finding no reversible error, the Supreme Court here affirmed the death penalty imposed on seven persons charged with kidnapping a businessman from Isulan, Sultan Kudarat seven years ago.

In an en banc decision, the SC also ordered Abdila Silongan, Macapagal Silongan, Akmad Awal, Rolly Lamalan, Sacaria Alon, Jumbrah Manap and Ramon Pasawilan to pay trader Alexander Saldana and his friend Americo Rejuso Jr. P250,000 in moral and nominal damages for the abduction on March 19, 1996.

The seven accused, together with 61 others, were charged before the Sultan Kudarat regional trial court after their arrest when they failed to secure a ransom of P12 million from the trader's family.

The Department of Justice, however, asked the SC to transfer the case to any of Quezon City's special crimes court.

Beyond doubt

On Jan. 18, 1999, the Quezon City court found the accused guilty beyond reasonable doubt but the seven asked the SC to reverse their conviction.

They said they were not clearly identified as the perpetrators of the crime when the case was tried before the lower court.

Fifteen armed men took Saldana, Rejuso and two companions, Ervin Tormis and Victor Cinco, from the mountains of Barangay Laguilayan in Isulan following an aborted business meeting supposedly arranged by one Macapagal Silongan, one of the accused.

Tormis and Cinco later escaped but Saldana and Rejuso were moved from place to place and kept captive until Sept. 24, 1996 or after more than six months.

The two were released to the military in exchange for a relative of one of the kidnappers who was caught delivering a ransom note to Saldana's family.

In its 22-page decision, the SC dismissed the plea of the accused to be acquitted on the ground that one of the victims identified their captors with wrong names.

"That Rejuso Jr. does not know the names of the abductors is not sufficient to cast doubt on his testimony," the decision said.

"It is not necessary that the name of the accused be specifically stated by a witness in an affidavit or in his testimony."

The court said: "Victims of crimes cannot always identify their assailants by name. It is inoperative, however, that the attacker be pointed out and unequivocally identified during the trial in court as the person who committed the crime."

The SC noted that the two victims had a lot of opportunities to see the faces of their captors since they had lived with them for six months and that "the kidnappers made little or no attempt to conceal their identities."

WAR AND DROUGHT EDWIN BACASMAS
The parched earth is all that is left of this farmer of Maigo town, Lanao del Norte, site of a battle between government soldiers and Moro rebels. Hundreds of displaced families are facing a long drought.

158 religious icons seized from buyer

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—The Intelligence Division of the Cebu Provincial Police Office (CPPO) seized on Monday from an antique dealer 158 religious icons, most of which were believed to have been stolen.

This was a breakthrough in the series of unsolved church thefts here.

After the successful operation, representatives from the different churches in Cebu, Leyte and Bohol went to the police headquarter to find out if icons from their churches were along those now in police possession.

At least three of the seized icons were positively identified to have been stolen from the parish churches in the Cebu towns of Carcar, Dalaguete and Badian.

Senior Insp. Bienvenido Premne, CPPO intelligence officer, said they have prepared charges of violation of the anti-fencing law against antique dealer Rory Bacus, a resident of 402 Billones Compound, Bontores Street, Barangay Basak Mambaling, Cebu City.

Bacus was temporarily held for questioning but was later freed pending the filing of charges against him.

Bacus' apartment was raided by Premne's team at around 6 p.m. Monday after Municipal Trial Court in Cities Branch 7 judge Francisco Seville Jr. issued the search warrant in the same day.

The police conducted the raid after following last week's seizure of ten religious icons from workers identified with Bacus. Two of the earlier seized icons were found to have been stolen from churches in Bohol.

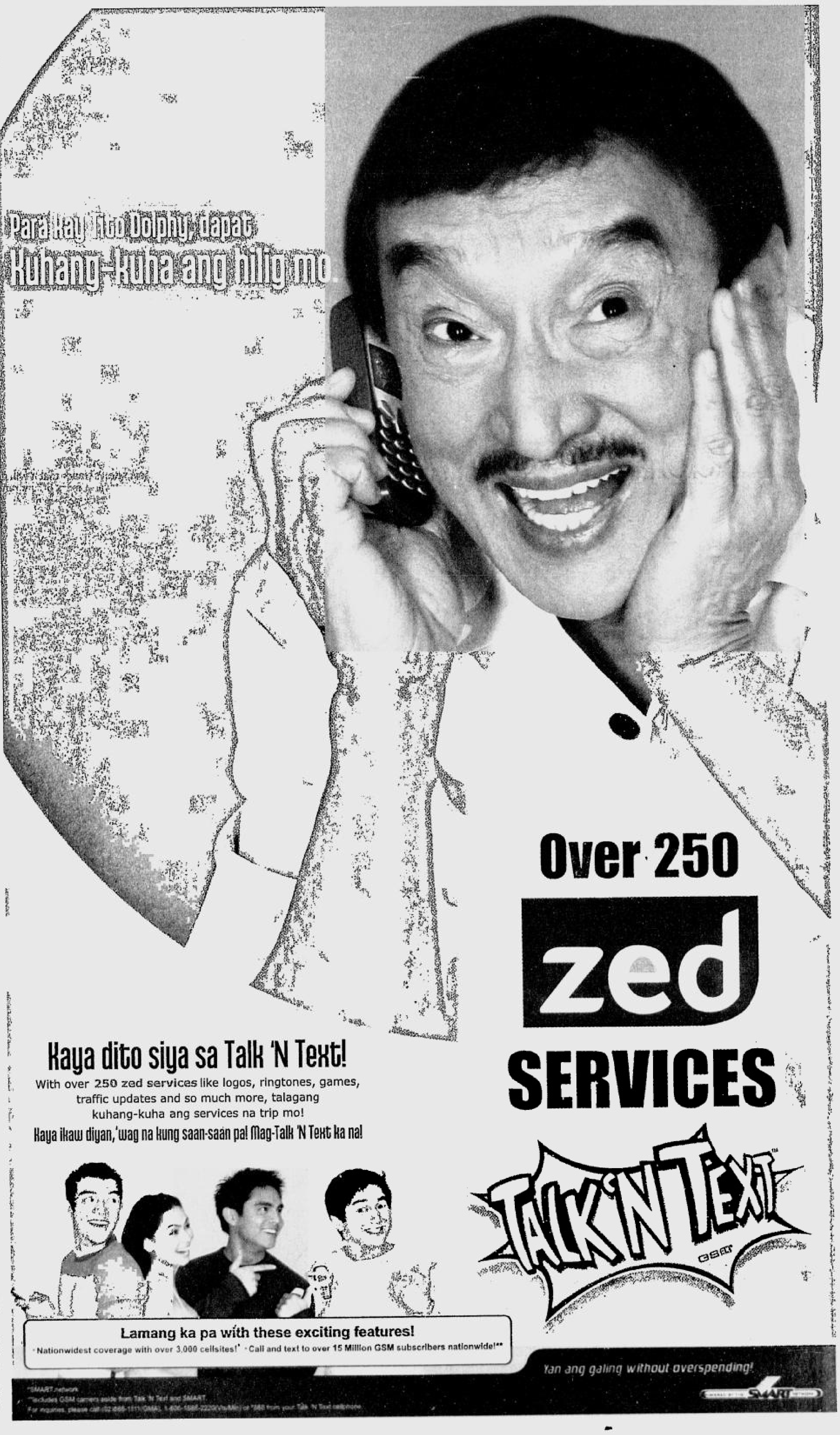
Seized in last Monday's operation aside from the 158 antique icons were 15 crucifixes, 15 assorted heads of statues, 63 pieces hands of statues, 7 antique angels, 4 antique communion plates, 6 assorted old crowns, 4 assorted old robes, 6 pieces bronze chalices and 4 antique candle handlers.

Premne said they could not determine the value of those items because these were considered priceless.

Premne said Bacus told the police that the icons will be deliveréd to some buyers in the United States, but the transactions were made through the Internet.

Last April 25, Premne's team also confiscated 10 antique icons from Bacus in Mandaue City. Church officials from Inabanga, Bohol, claimed two of the icons.

Since Monday, officials from Leyte and the different churches in Cebu trooped to CPPO to also claim their icons.



Para kay Tito Dolphy, dapat Kuhang-kuha ang hilig mo.

Over 250
zed
SERVICES

Kaya dito siya sa Talk 'N Text!
With over 250 zed services like logos, ringtones, games, traffic updates and so much more, talagang kuhang-kuha ang services na trip mo!
Kaya ikaw diyan, 'wag na kung saan-saan pa! Mag-Talk 'N Text ka na!

TALK 'N TEXT GSM

Lamang ka pa with these exciting features!
• Nationwidest coverage with over 3,000 cellsites!* • Call and text to over 15 Million GSM subscribers nationwide!**

Yan ang galing without overspending!

*SMART network
**Includes GSM carriers aside from Talk 'N Text and SMART.
For inquiries, please call [illegible] from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

SARS BRIEFS

No N-95 masks in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY—The arrival of stocks of N-95 masks, worth P500 each, intended for Baguio hospitals has been delayed for two weeks, alarming doctors who have begun attending to suspected Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) cases. An overseas Filipino worker was confined at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center for testing, while two more patients were referred to the hospital by a private clinic last weekend. "Most of the nurses detailed to Baguio deal with patients based in the Cordillera, La Union and Pangasinan, but they have not been provided proper health guidelines in responding to this disease," an INQUIRER source said.

Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Indian woman has SARS symptoms

BAGUIO CITY—Local officials on Monday considered an Indian woman, who spent a month in Thailand, a serious medical case after he suffered from atypical pneumonia. City officials received from local epidemiologists complete medical files on the woman, who arrived in Baguio on April 26. She had voluntarily asked for treatment at the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC). Initial examinations found traces of atypical pneumonia, a symptom of SARS, although health officials here denied that the Indian was a potential SARS victim. "The patient needs to exhibit all the symptoms for doctors to conclude that this is a SARS case," a member of the city epidemiological surveillance unit told the INQUIRER.

Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

IRRI denies SARS cases

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna—The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) has denied reports that it has any cases of SARS at its headquarters in Los Baños, Laguna. In a press statement, IRRI denied allegations that the institute had received visitors from overseas who might have contracted the disease. "There are no SARS cases at IRRI," the statement said. All IRRI staff members have been told to postpone travel to any SARS-affected regions including China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Singapore and Toronto.

Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

No kissing of Manaoag statue

MANAOAG, Pangasinan—With fears of contamination from the SARS virus, a church official here asked devotees of the Our Lady of Manaoag to avoid touching or kissing the image or wiping it with their handkerchiefs. The directive, issued by Fr. Patricio Apa, Manaoag parish priest, and approved by Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, would cover other images in the shrine that thousands of devotees from all over the country visit everyday. Apa, however, said devotees could still touch the clothes of the image. He said he issued the directive to prevent the possible spread of SARS among pilgrims and churchgoers. Some norms during masses were also changed to avoid the possible spread of the SARS virus. These include receiving communion by hand, instead of mouth; and bowing, instead of kissing, each other during the "peace ritual."

Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

State of emergency in Palawan

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Palawan has been declared under the state of emergency to prevent the entry of SARS in the province. According to Gov. Joel Reyes, his declaration is in support of the measures undertaken by the Department of Health and other government agencies. With this, he said, stringent measures will be implemented in the province for travelers, including those who use the backdoor near Malaysia and other Asian countries. The provincial council issued a resolution granting the governor the power to declare the province under the state of emergency. Vice Gov. David Ponce de Leon said the measures should detail technicians on the pre-departure areas in the pier or airport. Those who would not follow the stringent rules, he said, should be meted with more coercive measures.

Jofelle Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

SARS SCARE

Residents try anything to cope

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

A CUSTOMER in one of Baguio's bars covers his face with a piece of sanitary napkin, providing comic relief on the SARS scare in the city.

TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON

BAGUIO CITY—In the absence of any cure for or even proper information on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), residents here are trying anything that works or just to assuage their panic.

Bernie Villena bought two large papayas at the city market because he said he learned on television that papaya might be effective against atypical pneumonia.

When asked how papaya could be effective, Villena said: "My family will eat it, *siguro* (maybe)."

Dr. Luc Montagnier, president of the Paris-based World Foundation for AIDS Research and Prevention, recommended using an extract of fermented papaya to boost immunity probably against SARS. The extract also boosts anti-oxidant qualities although the treatment is not yet backed by research or tests.

This meant that Villena would have to ferment the papaya to make it probably effective.

Montagnier met with Pope John Paul II in Vatican last September and asked the 83-year-old Pope to relax his stand on condoms to tackle AIDS in the developing world.

But he also took the opportunity to suggest fermented papaya as a cure for the Pope's Parkinson's disease.

Marie Bistoyong, a local fruit vendor, said there is no dramatic rise in papaya sales here.

Bistoyong said they throw away the overripe papaya, which is the best way to get the papaya extract recommended by Montagnier.

Baguio writer Linda Grace Cariño, in her weekly column for a local daily, said she received an e-mail from a friend in Indonesia about a possible SARS cure.

Cariño, in her column, said the "anti-SARS mixture" consists of ginger, lemon, honey and prayers.

The e-mail from her friend follows:

"Our Blessed Mother told Joseph Francis in October 1986 that there would soon be a flu-like illness that will cause many, many deaths. This illness will affect the lungs and the heart.

"Our Loving Mother gave us this advice: 1/2 garlic clove crushed, two slices ginger root chopped, a tablespoon lemon juice, a teaspoon honey.

"Crush 1/2 of large garlic clove and the slices of fresh ginger root and put into a cup. Add one tablespoon lemon juice and one teaspoon honey in the cup. Pour boiling water into the cup and let the mixture set for at least five minutes (Do not boil mixture).

"We are to drink this every day, about one hour before bedtime. If one already has the symptoms, they are to drink a cup of this three times a day.

"A garlic pill or capsule (from health stores) may be substituted if one cannot take fresh garlic. If there is an aftertaste or garlic breath, one should eat a few sprigs of fresh parsley."

In Baguio City, only a few residents wear respirators or surgical masks on the streets. Those who do, however, are not wearing the N95 respirators recommended by the World Health Organization.

According to the Department of Tourism, there was a drop of 40 percent in airplane occupancy to and from this city compared to last year. This may be because of the danger of SARS transmission in enclosed air-conditioned areas, like an airplane.

But a driver of a bus company here said there was no drop in passengers taking aircon buses. Taxi riders in the city should count their blessings that there is no need for air conditioning because of the cool climate.

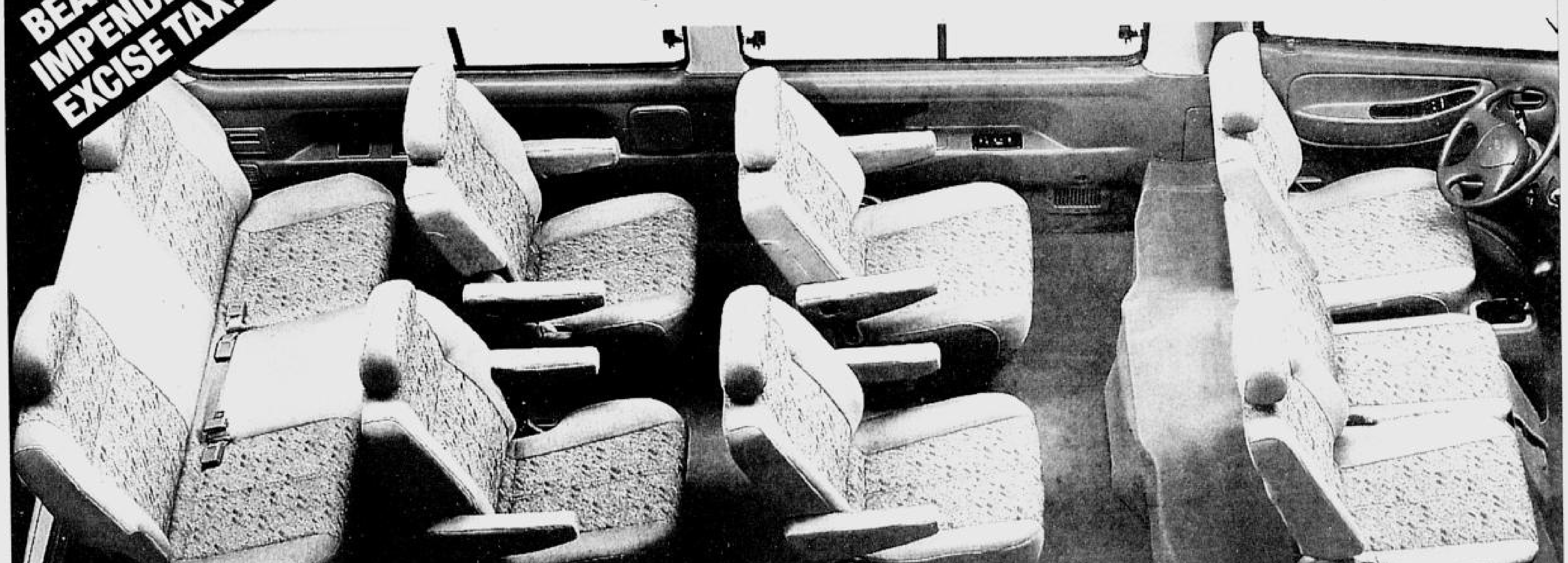
But text messages here said the SARS virus will not survive in Baguio because of the polluted air, alluding to the World Bank report that the city's air is among the most polluted in the country.

The used clothes trade is another industry suffering from talks about SARS. But this is not because of the erroneous report that the virus thrives on used clothes (SARS' corona virus can survive outside a host for three hours and the *wagwag* stocks coming from Hong Kong take weeks or even months to reach the city).

Unlike the *ukay-ukay* in other places, the used clothes here are bought directly in Hong Kong by Baguio businessmen. Since SARS became prevalent in Hong Kong, *viajeros* started to fear going there and buy used clothes.

BEAT THE IMPENDING EXCISE TAX!

Presenting the PREGIO Limousine Special.



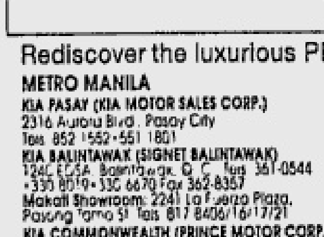
Pampering you with four captain's chairs, AUDIOVOX VCD with LCD/TV, and updated amenities.

The Limousine Special completes the PREGIO series of versatile vans devoted to togetherness in going places.

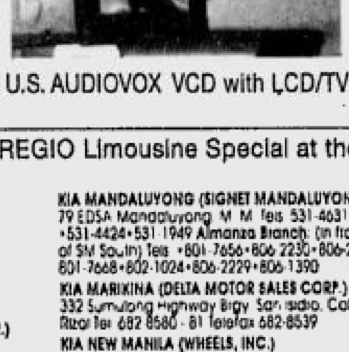
The Limousine Special tops the line with its four exclusive, fully adjustable captain's chairs with 180° swivelling first row for face-to-face conversation.

And now, there's even a ceiling-mounted VCD with LCD/TV to keep you entertained along the way, helped along by all-power conveniences and the PREGIO's exclusive front/rear coil spring suspension that smoothens out the road.

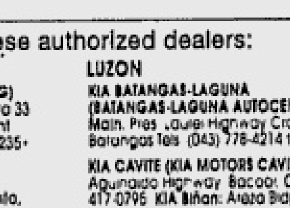
PREGIO Limousine Special. All the luxurious comfort you can take sitting down.



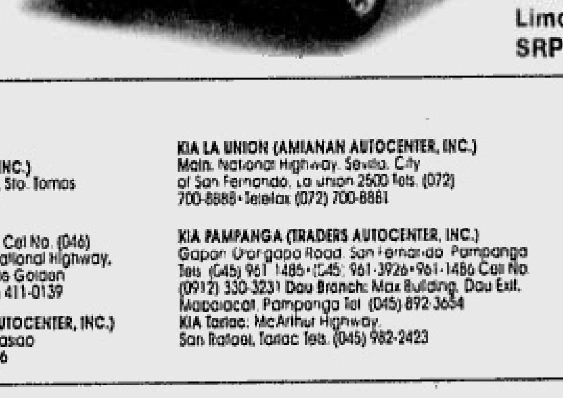
Side mirrors with defogger



U.S. AUDIOVOX VCD with LCD/TV



Roof luggage rack rails



PREGIO
Limousine Special
SRP P865,000.00 M/T

KIA
Kia Motors Philippines

photo may vary from actual unit

Rediscover the luxurious PREGIO Limousine Special at these authorized dealers:

METRO MANILA
KIA PASAY (KIA MOTOR SALES CORP.)
2316 Aurora Blvd., Pasay City
Tels. 852-1552•551-1801
KIA BALINTAWAK (SIGNET BALINTAWAK)
124C EDSA, Balintawak, Q. C. Tels. 361-0544 •330-8019•330-6670 Fax 362-8357
Makati Showroom: 2241 La Fuerza Plaza, Pasong Tamo St. Tels. 817-8406/16/17/21
KIA COMMONWEALTH (PRINCE MOTOR CORP.)
43 Commonwealth Avenue, Q. C.
Tels. 951-2201 to 16•453-9318 to 20
KIA QUIRINO AVE. (VELCOR AUTO HAUS, INC.)
1170-1180 Pres. Quirino Ave. Ext. Paco, Manila
Tels. 563-2282 to 86 Fax 562-1659

KIA MANDALUYONG (SIGNET MANDALUYONG)
79 EDSA Mandaluyong, M. M. Tels. 531-4631 to 33 •531-4424•531-1949 Almanza Branch: (in front of SM Southmall) Tels. •801-7656•806-2230•806-2235•801-7668•802-1024•806-2229•806-1390
KIA MARIKINA (DELTA MOTOR SALES CORP.)
332 Sumulong Highway Brgy. San Isidro, Cainta, Rizal Tel. 682-8580 - 81 Telefax 682-8539
KIA NEW MANILA (WHEELS, INC.)
222 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q. C. (near St. Luke's Hospital) Tels. 721-8456•721-8465 •721-8448 •4113406 Quezon Ave. Branch: 602 Quezon Ave., Q. C. Tels. 712-2923•712-2926•743-6707

LUZON
KIA BATANGAS-LAGUNA (BATANGAS-LAGUNA AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Main: Pres. Laurel Highway Crossing, Sto. Tomas Batangas Tels. (043) 778-4214 to 17
KIA CAVITE (KIA MOTORS CAVITE)
Aguinaldo Highway, Bacoor, Cavite Cel No. (046) 417-0795 KIA Biñan: Arezo Bldg. 2 National Highway, Brgy. Canlalay, Biñan, Laguna (Beside Golden City Subd.) Tels. (02) 520-8241•(049) 411-0139
KIA DAGUPAN (METRO-DAGUPAN AUTOCENTER, INC.)
McArthur Highway, San Miguel, Calasiao Pangasinan Tels. (075) 522-8805 to 06

KIA LA UNION (AMIANAN AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Main: National Highway, Sevilla, City of San Fernando, La Union 2500 Tels. (072) 700-8888•Telefax (072) 700-8881
KIA PAMPANGA (TRADERS AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Gapan Olongapo Road, San Fernando, Pampanga Tels. (045) 961-1485•(045) 961-3926•961-1486 Cell No. (0912) 330-3231 Dau Branch: Max Building, Dau Exit, Mabalacat, Pampanga Tel. (045) 892-3654
KIA Tarlac: McArthur Highway, San Rafael, Tarlac Tels. (045) 982-2423

VISAYAS & MINDANAO
KIA CEBU (GATEWAY MOTORS CORP.)
417 A. Cortes Ave., Mandaue City Tels. (032) 344-3815•(032) 344-3665•(032) 346-7289
Fax (032)346-7289
KIA BACOLOD (877 MOTOR CORP.)
D.C. Cruz Building, Magsaysay St., Singcang Bacolod City Telefax (034)4322628
KIA CAGAYAN DE ORO (STERLING MOTOR CORP.)
Cugman, Cagayan de Oro City
Tels. (088)855-5500, (088)855-6100, (088)733207

KIA DAVAO (RS AUTOSPHERE CORP.)
Km. 7, J. P. Laurel Ave., Lanang, Davao City
Tels. (082) 234-0057 to 58 Fax (082) 234-2434
KIA DIPOLOG (WESTERN MINDANAO AUTOMOTIVE CORP.)
(also known as CHEVY CENTER), National Highway, Sta. Isabel, Dipolog City Tels. (065)212-5897 Fax (065)212-2865
KIA ILOILO (KIA MOTORS Metro Iloilo)
Brgy. Tagbac, beside Metropolis, Jaro, Iloilo City
Tels. (033)329-2888•(033) 329-2222•(033) 329-4630
Fax (033)329-5257

ROUNDUP

Tremors in Davao

DAVAO CITY—Mild tremors hit this city and some parts of Southern Mindanao on Saturday and Sunday nights. The mild quake at around 11 p.m. Saturday night was also felt in General Santos City. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the tremor, measured at Intensity 3 in General Santos City and Intensity 2 here, was tectonic in origin. On Sunday night, an Intensity 3 quake was also felt in Davao City, with its epicenter in Talomo District. Philvolcs science analyst Ferdinand Taglucop said no injuries and damage to property were reported. ***Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

New medical center

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo on Saturday inaugurated the modern Subic Bay Medical Center (SBMC) here. Romulo, citing efforts of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority to provide a "state-of-the-art" medical facility for investors and residents, said the SBMC is "far off better than other medical institutions" in the country. Dr. Harry Badion, SBMC director, said the center will offer specialized medical services, including heart bypass operations and possibly organ transplants. ***Allan Macatuno, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Police exec exits

CAMP OSCAR FLORENDO, San Fernando City—Chief Supt. Arturo Lomibao relinquished his post as regional police director of Ilocos on Friday after more than two years in office. His successor is Chief Supt. Claudio Cabreros, formerly the deputy director of operations of the Philippine National Police. Cabreros' 31 years of military and police service included being the provincial commander in Mindanao in the early 1990s and deputy director of the Cordillera regional command. ***Gia Damaso-Dumo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Marijuana arrests

BAGUIO CITY—Police arrested two men in Sagada, Mt. Province, last week on charges of possession of 2.75 kilograms of marijuana. Arrested were Dakuyen Gaid and Jake Mamma Solang, both of Kalinga. Reports said policemen took the suspects to the Sagada police station on a theft complaint. While questioning them, the police inspected their bag and found the marijuana bricks, worth P68,750, inside it.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Suspected abductor

BAGUIO CITY—Police last week arrested a suspect in the abduction of a German couple in Ifugao last year in Tabuk, Kalinga. Reports identified the suspect as Amor Gubiangan, 27. Gubiangan, police said, is the fourth most wanted criminal in the Cordillera. The suspect, according to a press statement from the Cordillera police office, belonged to the group that abducted a German couple and their driver along the Bontoc-Banaue Road in Mt. Polis, Ifugao, on April 21 last year. Gubiangan was charged with kidnapping and serious illegal detention.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Benefits for vets

CALAPAN CITY—Twenty-one veteran-survivors here received plaques of appreciation and the news that they and their dependents will be receiving hospitalization benefits. The veterans were part of some 400 members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines who celebrated the 61st Araw ng Kagitingan in Naujan, Oriental Mindoro last April 9. Gov. Bartolome Marasigan praised the veterans' courage during World War II. ***Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Youth summer job

CALAPAN CITY—Some 500 poor students and drop-outs, who wish to continue with their studies, started working in nine Oriental Mindoro towns last April 21 under the Special Program for Employment of Students of the Department of Labor. According to provincial employment service officer Antonio Magnaye Jr., the usual 40 workdays have been reduced to 15 days because of limited funds to accommodate more students. Those who were not admitted this year would be prioritized next year, he said. ***Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Pipe organ concert

THE 34-YEAR-OLD pipe organ of the San Sebastian Cathedral in Lipa City will be blessed and launched on May 2 after a Mass to be led by Lipa Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales. This will be followed by a pipe organ concert featuring organists Armando Salarza, priests Fr. Manny Marfori, Fr. Bong Panganiban and Rodel Garcia together with the Festival Choir of Las Piñas, St. Scholastica's College Chamber Orchestra and the Seraphim of Lipa City, will follow inside the Cathedral. Considered rare, the pipe organ's rehabilitation took over two years at the cost of P3.3 million. Tickets for the even are available at the Cathedral office, tel. no. (043)981-11-60

'Lumad' folk urge GMA to order stop to logging

COTABATO CITY—Tribal leaders all over Mindanao are asking President Macapagal-Arroyo to order a stop to the logging operations in the towns of North and South Upi in Maguindanao.

Antonio Lumandong, National Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of the Philippines secretary general, said the Maguindanao Coastal Logging Corp. (MCLC) started its operations in the two towns without consulting the affected Teduray and Lambanguan *lumad*.

The former Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Secretary Faisal Karon gave MCLC, an Industrial Forest Management Agreement holder, the authority to operate on Feb. 13, 1998.

Lumandong said they were informed of the logging operation that covers about 5,500 hectares of their Ancestral Domain only when operations started in November last year.

To date, Lumandong said the firm has already cut down at least 200 logs.

He said they want President Macapagal to implement a total log ban in North and South Upi to protect the remaining forests.

"Native Teduray and Lambangian are suffering from extreme violation of their rights to ancestral domain, self governance and empowerment, social justice and human rights and cultural integrity," Lumandong said.

Romy Saliga, administrative officer of the Lumad Development Center Inc., an organization in South and North Upi that looks into the plight of indigenous peoples, said they were not against any development if it would benefit the majority.

"In the case of MCLC, we do not find any development to the environment and to the people especially those directly affected by the logging operation. It will only intensify the already marginalized situation in the area. It will likewise endanger the lives of the people and the lives of those yet to be born," Saliga stressed.

Victoria Kanakan, executive director of the Office for Southern Cultural Communities in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, emphasized in her letter dated April 2 to Gov. Parouk Hussin and Regional Legislative Assembly Speaker Ibrahim Ibay that Karon's approval of the logging operation was a violation of the Free and Prior Informed Consent embodied in Republic Act No. 8371, or the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997. *Rosa-May V. de Guzman, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Batangas residents complain of foul odor

By Mei Magsino
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

BATANGAS CITY—Residents of Barangays Tabangao, San Isidro, Wawa and Sta. Clara in this city have complained of frequent emissions of foul odor from the Pilipinas-Shell refinery in Barangay Tabangao.

The foul odor, according to residents, has raised the incidence of respiratory diseases among the villagers, especially the children, who have inhaled the foul odor that they suspect came from the oil refinery.

Saturnino Culiat, 63, a barangay kagawad of Wawa, said they have already petitioned the city council to act on the problem that they have been suffering for years.

The odor seemed to spread more often this summer, causing pain in their nasal cavity, throat, chest and head.

Over 100 residents of Wawa, who have also been affected by the foul odor, signed the petition.

Denial

Robert Malabanan, Shell refinery's community and government liaisons officer in the Shell Tabangao refinery said his company has no hazardous emissions.

"Our studies have proven that there are no hazardous emissions from our refinery. The odor that the residents have complained about is categorized under the intermittent industrial odor that happens not only in refineries but also in all industrial operations," Malabanan said.

He added that the rising temperature this summer could have caused the rapid evaporation of their products that caused the emission of the foul odor.

"That has no proven health hazard," Malabanan said. "If that odor is hazardous, the 50 senior officials living in Shell's housing facility should have been the first ones to complain. And we would never expose our own people to that kind of danger."

Nebulizer

Eugenia Caraan, 34, another barangay kagawad of Tabangao Aplaya, said the residents in her barangay have bought one nebulizer each, as every family in her barangay has at least two people who have asthma.

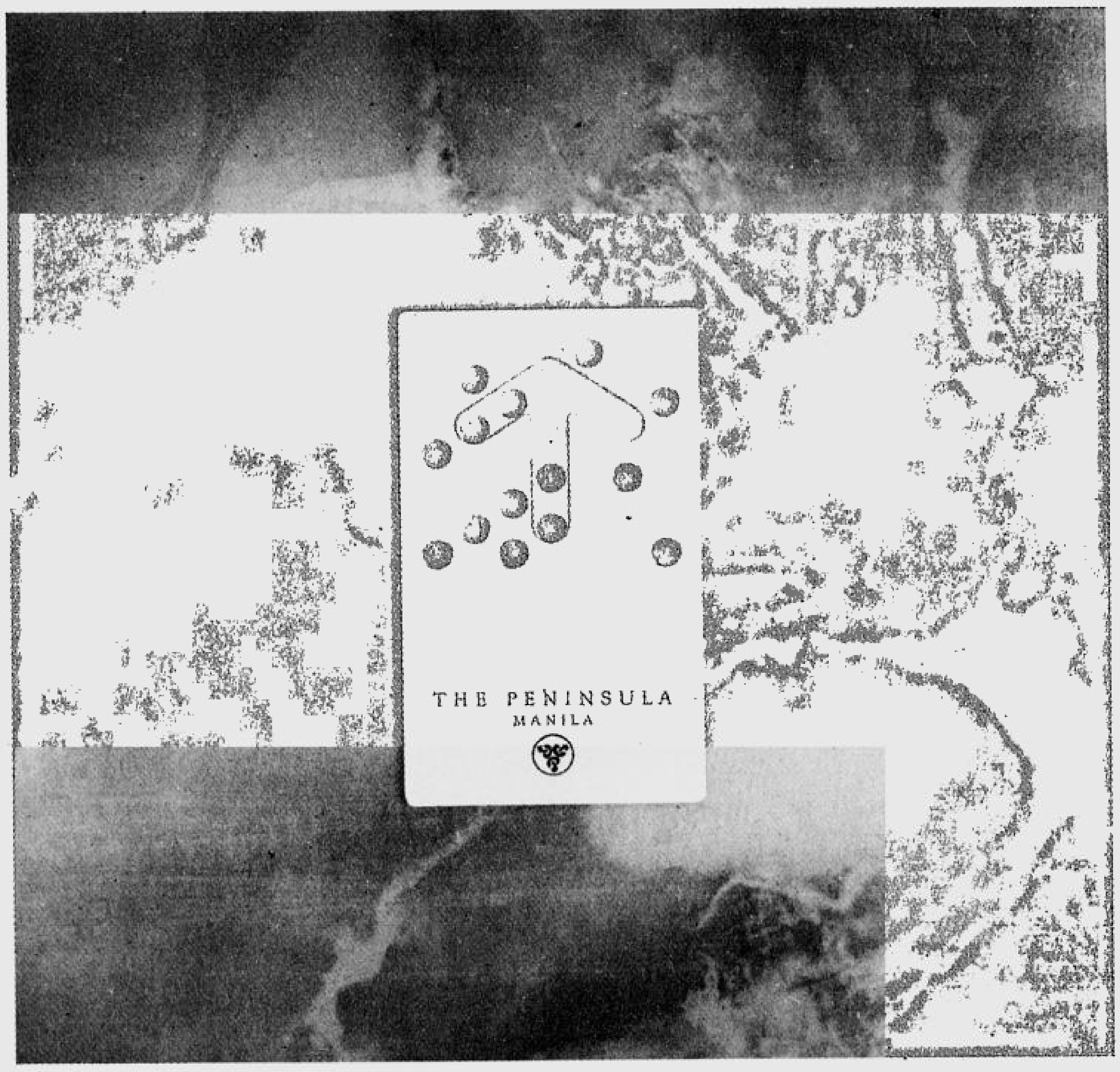
At the nearby barangay of San Isidro, Boyet Malibiran, a resident has also complained of the same foul odor that has been the culprit for the increased respiratory ailments among his village mates.

He said the Shell Philippines Exploration had conducted an investigation of the foul odor three years ago and found that the odor did not come from them.

Tinga said the company is doing everything it can to lessen, if not to totally remove the foul odor.

Dining
Living
Dining
Dining
We are Open on May 1!
Hall Chest
Living
Office

EXPORT OVERRUN SALE
PROMO PERIOD: APRIL 25 - MAY 25, 2003
MEJORE WOODWORKS INCORPORATED
Distributed all over the world
Visit our showroom at: IDC Bldg. E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City
or call us at: 636-7030 / 637-5976 Store hours: Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-4pm
SUPPORT Buy FILIPINO PRODUCTS
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-171 Series of 2003



Room for all of you

Your access to free Broadband Internet.

With our speedy DSL connections, the web is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week just for you.

THE PENINSULA
MANILA

To experience how The Peninsula Manila provides "Room For All of You", contact your travel professional or tpm@peninsul
Corner of Ayala and Makati Avenues, 1226 Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines • Tel: 887-2888, 812 3456 • Fax: 815-4825, 815 340
E-mail: tpm@peninsula.com • Website: www.peninsula.com

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
INQUIRER Northern Luzon
Editor Jun Bandayrel · Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez

Veggie farmers in Mt. Province, Benguet do it 'the natural way'

By Maurice Malanes
Baguio City

FIVE kilograms of ginger, a liter of beer, a kilo of crude sugar, a liter of gin, and crushed chili and neem fruit. These ingredients appear to be another cocktail concoction at your favorite bar.

But these are the ingredients for a potent but environmentally safe pesticide and fungicide, which a natural farming trainer had taught recently to some farmers in Mt. Province.

Inspired by the natural farming technology trainer, 41 farmers from the vegetable-producing villages of Bauko town have enlisted in a multipurpose cooperative, which seeks to produce and market naturally grown vegetables.

Determined to practice what they learned, these farmers prepared a total of 30 hectares distributed in various villages and planted these with the usual cash crops—potatoes, cabbages, carrots and other tropical vegetables. But they have to grow these "the natural way"—no chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

Both farmers and officials from Benguet and Mt. Province have been seeking a way out of a crisis, which has been hurting both provinces' almost 100-year-old vegetable industry after imported and smuggled vegetables have flooded the local markets since last year.

For Mt. Province, Gov. Sario Malinias said it was time for farmers to start discovering the market niche of a few but growing "natural farming" advocates in the country, who now have expanding exclusive outlets for more expensive but healthier produce.

Malinias thus invited Andry Lim, president of the Tribal Mission Foundation International, a group promoting natural farming technology and healthy living in Davao City, to talk to farmers in Mt. Province.

In March, Lim came to Barangay Sadsadan, a vegetable growing community in Bauko, to show alternatives to the chemical-saturated farming methods of local farmers.

'Green revolution'

Endorsers of the Green Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s had preached on high productivity through high inputs of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

Since the 1990s, agro-chemical distributors have been disposing of each year an average of 500 tons of fungicides, 500,000 liters of pesticides and almost 15,000 tons of commercial fertilizers worth P500,000 in Benguet and Mt. Province's vegetable belt, said a farm supply dealer.

Manufactured by 15 major multinational companies, the volume of fertilizers disposed of each year in Benguet and Mt. Province is enough to wipe out all the United States-led coalition forces and Iraqi soldiers combined, claimed a researcher who studied the patterns of pesticide use in the local vegetable industry.

The various methods and technology that were supposed to ensure high yield through high inputs proved deadly to the environment and to human health, Lim said.

A phenomenon in Benguet and Mt. Province that agriculturists call "pest succession" reinforces Lim's observation.

Pesticides, for example, eliminated the leafhopper, a cabbage pest, only to be succeeded by the diamond-back moth, a more destructive pest.

The average vegetable farmer in Benguet and Mt. Province sprays his 90-day cabbage crop 12 to 21 times, depending on the infestation. He also mixes "cocktails" of three to six brands of pesticides and fungicides, believing that the more mixture is made, the more it will be effective.

But like human reaction to antibiotics, pests also develop resistance to pesticides, say experts. Diamond-back moths, for example, have developed such resistance to pesticides.

Pesticides have also eradicated beneficial animals and insects, which feed on pests, thereby compounding the pest problem.

Frogs, for example, are vanishing, if not extinct, in Loo village in Buguias, Benguet's top vegetable-growing town, noted a study by the Center for Policy and Development Studies of the University of the Philippines in Los Baños, Laguna. Frogs are considered farmers' best friends because frogs feed on insects.

Chemical fertilizers and pesticides also tend to strip the soil of its natural nutrients, Lim said.

Regaining loss

Lim showed various indigenous ways to regain not only soil nutrients lost after decades of chemical farming, but also how to help bring back vital microorganisms, which, he said, help condition soil for plant growth.

Here's one soil conditioner recipe, which, Lim said, farmers themselves could make in their own homes and farms:

- Put 1 kg of cooked rice in an 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch by 3-inch box or inside a big foot-long bamboo pole open on one end.
- Cover the box or bamboo with a clean sheet of paper and tie with a string.
- Cover the box or bamboo with plastic to keep out rainwater, insects and rats.
- Place under forest or bamboo leaves or coconut husks.
- After three days, remove the rice, which is now full of molds.
- Place in a clay jar the moldy rice and mix it with a kilo of crude sugar.
- Cover the jar with a clean sheet of paper and tie it with a string, and place the jar in a cool and shaded place.

After seven days, the jar's contents will yield a mud-like juice, much like the Igorot *tapuy* or rice wine.

A farmer has to mix two tablespoons of the concoction with a liter of water and spray it on the soil and plants. The concoction could help revive soil nutrients and speed up composting, said Lim.

A VILLAGER checks the giant chair in Barangay Alinguigan, Ilagan, Isabela which was made to promote the local furniture making industry.
BEN MOSES EBREO

Ilagan folk present 'Botaka ni Goliath'

VILLAGERS in Barangay Alinguigan in Ilagan, Isabela, have created a giant armchair called *botaka* in a bid to promote the town as the center of the furniture industry in the province.

DAYTOY TI AMIANAN

The armchair, called the "Botaka ni Goliath," is made of narra and rattan, and measures about 5.5 meters (18 feet) long and 3.0 m (10 feet) high.

The furniture makers of Barangays Alinguigan 2nd and 3rd started making the giant armchair in January and finished it last month. It will be officially presented to the public on May 4.

"We want other provinces to know that this is our furniture specialty," said furniture maker Ching Bagumo.

Last year, Mayor Delfinito Albano met all furniture makers in the town and presented the idea to promote the local furniture industry.

Albano provided the raw materials while other furniture makers contributed from P200 to P500 each for additional materials to create the giant *botaka*.

Furniture makers grouped themselves and volunteered to finish the giant armchair.

The symbols of a saw, hammer, chisel and the slogan "Ilagan Kilos Na!" have been engraved on the chair's arm support.

Residents said the product would serve as an attraction for local and foreign tourists to visit the town, appreciate and patronize its furniture industry.

At least 1,600 board feet of uncut wood were used in the giant armchair.

"The most difficult part of it was the first stage. We called it *balso*. We had to use two chain blocks to assemble the body. It was heavy, each part required a group of men to carry," said Fidel Padayuman, 54, a furniture maker.

Padayuman said that during the assembly stage, 15 men had to carry the chair's feet and arms.

"Our problem now is how to transport the giant armchair without destroying it," he said.

The furniture makers also used steel bolts and nuts to connect the arms and feet to the body.

Padayuman said the *botaka* is one of the products easily sold to local and foreign tourists. Furniture makers sell the *botaka* at P1,500 apiece, but it is sold for P3,000 in Metro Manila.

"We made the giant *botaka* to encourage buyers to come to our town," said Rogelia Bucag, a furniture maker.

Albano said the giant *botaka* symbolized the Ilagueños' "ingenuity, zeal and good attitude." *Ben Moses Ebreo and Villamor Visaya Jr.*

Sexmoan to Sasmuan: Town regains reputation as fish capital

By Tonette Orejas
Sasmuan, Pampanga

FROM shame to fame. Sixteen years after shedding the name that stuck from the wrong pronunciation by Spanish and American colonizers, Sasmuan, formerly Sexmoan, is regaining its status as Pampanga's fish capital.

On May 4, the *consignacion* (market stall holders) and the Sasmuan Fishpond Owners and Operators Association are laying out a feast of *bangus* (milkfish), *tilapia*, shrimp, prawns, crabs and *dalag* (mudfish) for all to try and buy at the town plaza in Santa Lucia.

Patis (fish sauce), *ecko* (shrimp paste), the cholesterol-rich *tabang talangka*, and the native sweets *polvoron* (milk candies) and *marzipan* (cashew nougats) are also coming out in hundreds of bottles and boxes all on the same day, according to Mayor Catalina Bagasina.

The day is set aside for what is touted as Sasmuan's fish festival.

Bagasina said the event, held for the first time in decades in this ancient coastal town on the Pampanga delta, is a way of celebrating the success in reclaiming the old name and its increasing stature in fishery production.

In Central Luzon, the aquaculture in Pampanga still has the highest value, with Sasmuan significantly contributing to that despite the yearly bouts of residents against flooding and siltation.

As an aquaculture town, Bagasina said it was hardly referred to now as Sexmoan. "Years ago, a mere inquiry by a buyer on the place where the fish supply came from was enough to embarrass the vendor because the name made it sound like we were a lusty people," the slightly amused mayor recalled.

But even as the colonizers' blunder made it as the town's official name, which then appeared in practically every public document most especially in maps and election records, she said the residents had always asserted their town's name as Sasmuan.

Early settlement

Situated along the water routes south of the Pampanga River that spilled into the Manila Bay, Sasmuan, together with Macabebe and Lubao, is believed to be one of the oldest settlements in Pampanga and thus one of the seats of the early Pampanga civilization.

A study by historian Donn Hart showed that the fishing town did not fall into the Philippine plaza complex pattern followed during the Spanish period.

While it became the hideout of Filipino revolutionaries during the Spanish regime, the Americans captured Sasmuan in May 1899.

How its name got distorted always draws interest.

The town's brochure explained: "Long before the coming of the Spaniards to the Philippines, the original name of the town was Sasmuan, which was derived from old Pampango word '*sasmo*,' meaning *pitabnuan* and its English translation is meeting place."

"Unfortunately, since the Spanish regime and during the American occupation, the name of the town degenerated to Sexmoan. Sometimes it is pronounced as 'Sexmoan' and indeed Sexmueños are embarrassed and ridiculed for they are jokingly branded as sexy."

Sasmuan did not only lose its name. Its identity was eventually subsumed when the American civil government made the town a mere village of neighboring Guagua town.

Don Monico Mercado, who was elected as the first representative of Pampanga to the First Philippine National Assembly, authored the law creating Sasmuan as an independent town on May 4, 1908.

The town's "independence" is celebrated as the Don Monico Day, in honor of Mercado.

Bagasina said the fish festival was held in memory of Mercado. As a poet and writer, Mercado took under his wing a number of talented young men, including the late President Diosdado Macapagal and the late Rep. Amado Yuzon.

While Mercado reclaimed Sasmuan's autonomy, it was former Pampanga Rep. Emigdio Lingad III that corrected the colonial mistake in 1987. The announcement on the Senate's approval of a resolution restoring the name Sasmuan was met with a daylong celebration in the town.

These historical events "shaped us," Bagasina said, adding that "even the town's name figured as a serious matter to us because it was our identity that was at stake."

What matters now, she pointed out, was carving a future in fisheries production in a town that has no available land devoted to rice farming.

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

Thank you Philippines for putting us in the Hall of Fame.

Nokia, the five-time recipient of the SuperBrand award, has been elevated
to the Hall of Fame in the Reader's Digest Asia's SuperBrand Survey.
Nokia is also the first and only brand to receive its third consecutive **Platinum award**
for outstanding brand performance in the mobile phone category in the Philippines.

Maraming Salamat po sa inyong pagtiwala sa Nokia.

NOKIA
voted by readers
SUPER BRAND
Platinum 2003
Reader's Digest Philippines

Copyright © 2003. Nokia . All rights reserved. Nokia and Nokia Connecting People are registered trademarks of Nokia Corporation.

Now that . . .

From page A1

graphically isolated or insulated from the rest of the world is archaic at the least. The interdependence of economies must become the basis for the new public health order. Where people, ideas, products and services cross borders at lightning speed, so will microbes.

Hence, we should have proceeded from the assumption that the arrival of SARS was inevitable. We needn't have waited for its actual landing. We could have, we still can, prepare our people for the possibility of more difficult times ahead. Our leaders must have the courage to bring people to a point where individual short-term sacrifices must be made for long-term social and economic benefits. SARS now, perhaps some other virus later: It makes no difference.

Our own experience shows that nations don't need to be infected to be affected. Even before the first SARS death in the Philippines, airlines were already reporting sharp drops in the number of their passengers, companies were canceling trips to Manila and investors were scaling down their expectations of economies and businesses everywhere.

But let's not assume that the economic impact of SARS is defined by physical territory alone. We are a nation dispersed throughout every nook and cranny of the planet. And regardless of where Filipinos are, it is incumbent upon the State to use its sovereign powers to the extent that it can to protect is people, wherever they are. Filipinos are not just people who live in the Philippines.

Inevitably, our economic losses will be related to how job markets for Filipinos here and abroad may--if we don't act now--shrink even more.

Beatable disease

Second, we should stress that SARS can be beaten. Despite what doomsayers peddle, the human race will survive this disease in the same way that it has survived many other diseases in recent history.

The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control in the United States have isolated the virus and mapped its genome in fantastically record time. Even as we wait for an antidote, people by their natural immune systems are beating the virus every single day. More than 95 percent of people found with SARS will survive the disease. Just as important, we also know that the SARS virus can be avoided.

As with HIV-AIDS, both the stigma and the risk associated with SARS can be erased by simple, reasonable adjustments in behavior and lifestyle. Fidelity to a single partner, safe sex, the avoiding of drugs and the screening of blood for transfusion can guarantee people of safety from HIV-AIDS.

Because it is spread by a virus similar to and likely mutated from the organism that brings the common cold, our weapons against SARS are even simpler: Keep your resistance up by eating properly, exercising regularly and getting plenty of rest. Wash your hands. Dispose of garbage properly, attend to your personal hygiene and keep the environment clean.

In the same breath, I must add that it is simplistic to imply that major public health problems like HIV-AIDS or SARS can be solved by changing people's behavior alone. In any disease outbreak, the importance of reformed, responsive and high-quality health care systems cannot be understated. The presence of a diagnostic kit, a cure or even a vaccine for HIV-AIDS or SARS will not ensure that these tools for fighting disease will be readily available to those who need them most.

Timely information

Third, we must provide people with timely and relevant information about the disease, especially at this time in the natural course of the disease when the paralysis brought about by SARS is caused by great uncertainty that results in fear and in some instances even panic.

Further study, I believe, will bear this out: People are afraid of SARS not so much because it can cause death. They are afraid because of the realization that SARS infections immediately and directly translates to micro-economic problems: loss of jobs and loss of economic opportunities.

Given the choice, our people will put their economic interests above personal safety. This is a matter of survival. Our government should do no less, because it is also a matter of survival for our leaders. As the experience of China and Hong Kong shows, the political leadership, not just the health sector, is being put to the test.

The fear of economic loss, defined as the inability to work, the loss of freedom and autonomy to earn enough to support one's self and one's family, is perhaps the single most compelling force that will spell the difference between SARS as a national calamity that could cripple the economy or SARS as a national opportunity to sharpen our leading edge in the global and domestic markets: our human resources.

Fourth, let us ensure that our workers are healthy and safe--and communicate this to the rest of the world.

Let us not fear criticism for imposing stronger quarantine measures if this is what it will take to prevent further "importation" of SARS from returning nationals or visiting foreigners. Having been a health secretary, I know that we do not need a new law to do what needs to be done. If we need to hide

GOOD/A19

Village bans SARS suspect

From page A1

She said she was compelled to tell the woman to leave because the residents were on the verge of panic and practically besieging the visitor.

Incensed by the expulsion, the woman's kin have threatened to sue the village leaders.

Paulino said she had apologized for the "unfortunate event" and appealed to the woman's brother to reconsider the decision to sue.

Meanwhile, Ozamiz Vice Mayor Carlos Bernad is seeking a protocol on reporting SARS-related stories.

Bernad said utmost consideration should be accorded the privacy of persons suspected of being SARS carriers.

Dr. Daniel Medina, city health director, said the public should not pass judgment until after the necessary tests had established the true condition of suspected SARS cases.

Nevertheless, Medina described the Tinago residents' behavior as a "healthy sign of vigilance against the disease."

"I just hope these indications of vigilance are translated into actual prevention actions," he said.

The widespread anxiety is resulting in cold cash for pharmacies.

As of Monday, the city's largest drug store was "out of stock" of surgical masks, including items intended only for display.

Leo Tan, proprietor of another pharmacy, said sales had risen by 400 percent since Saturday.

In Alabang, Metro Manila, the granddaughter of the late Mauricio Catalon is preparing to leave her isolation quarters at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM).

"I have no fever, no cough and respiratory difficulty," Jennifer Catalon, 27, said in an interview with dzBB radio early yesterday.

She said she was not anxious to be released, but was willing to wait for health officials to declare her completely safe.

Jennifer took care of her grandfather before he died of SARS on April 22. Mauricio was infected by his daughter Adela, who died on April 14.

"They all wear masks and gowns. They look like astronauts in protective suits . . . But they are good to me," Jennifer said of the RITM doctors attending to her.

RITM director Dr. Remigio Olveda, who was earlier in Tacloban City to check on isolation facilities there, confirmed that Jennifer's condition had improved in the last 36 hours.

He said she had fever on three occasions during her 10-day stay, but was well as of yesterday morning.

He also said Jennifer and her five remaining relatives at the RITM were not showing SARS symptoms and might be discharged on Friday.

Dr. Maria Consorcia Quizon, acting head of the National Epidemiology Center, also said the Catalons would be released Friday, the end of their 14-day quarantine.

She said the Department of Health had allowed the family to hold a wake for Mauricio because they would all be deemed clear of SARS by Friday.

According to Quizon, a total of 12 persons are under quarantine at various hospitals.

She said that so far, 61 persons had been confined for more than 24 hours at the RITM, San Lazaro Hospital and hospitals in Region 1, 2, 6, 7 and Metro Manila.

But they are all negative for SARS, she said.

Quizon also said the DOH was looking into the case of an overseas Filipino worker brought in as a SARS "suspect" from Isabela.

The OFW had come from the Middle East but stayed in Hong Kong for two weeks.

In Laoag City, Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has sought an extended suspension of the flights to and from Hong Kong for the whole month of May.

The suspension is to be lifted on May 3, but reports of the local transmission of SARS prompted Marcos to extend it. His spokesperson Lito Gorospe said the governor would announce the extension at his regular press briefing today.

Air Philippines earlier cancelled its Hong Kong-Laoag flights beginning April 14 in compliance with Marcos' request.

Dr. Rosito Tamayo, quarantine officer at the Laoag International Airport, said Ilocos Norte remained SARS-free despite continued flights from Guangdong in China and Kaoshiung in Taiwan.

Tamayo attributed this to the strict health protocol imposed on all air travelers.

"Our procedure starts by coordinating our efforts [with airport officials] at the entry points of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Guangdong. Passengers will not be allowed to board the plane if they fail to undergo checkup and interview," he said.

The Philippine Information Agency in Laoag has been running a regular radio program in the state-run Radyo ng Bayan to help raise public awareness on SARS.

During the radio program, Tamayo received text messages inquiring about the possibility of infection of employees holding office near the airport.

"That's an unwarranted fear," Tamayo said. "There is no reason to fear the air at the airport. I myself only use my mask when I board a plane."

Noting that false information could spark panic, Tamayo urged residents to keep calm.

"I received a tip about a hotel employee who was supposedly in hiding because he was sick. It took me all day to track this person [in various hotels]," he said.

The employee turned out to be a staff member of the Fort Ilocandia Resort and Casino who recently went to Guangdong for a cooking demonstration.

Tamayo said he advised the employee to observe a 10-day quarantine.

In Manila, Senate President Franklin Drilon said he was not in favor of a "harsher" penalty for people who refuse to be put under quarantine for SARS or other infectious diseases.

"Imposing a heavier penalty, I think, is not called for," he told reporters when asked to comment on a bill filed by Sen. Manuel Villar seeking higher penalties for quarantine violators.

Drilon noted that many of those afflicted with SARS were OFWs, and said what was important was the prevention of the transmission of the SARS virus.

At present, a violator of quarantine regulations is punished with a fine of not more than P2,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.

Laws sufficient

"I believe our quarantine laws, even if they are nearly half a century old, would still be sufficient to address this problem," Drilon said.

Villar has filed a bill seeking to amend Republic Act 123 by granting additional powers to the Bureau of Quarantine.

The bill proposes for quarantine violators a fine of not more than P10,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both. Those who refuse to go on isolation after developing an infectious disease face a fine of not more than P20,000 or a jail term of not more than two years, or both. *With reports from Cristina Arzadon and Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Christine O. Avendaño in Manila*

This time, no more 'beso-beso' for GMA

By Carlito Pablo

SHE had her temperature taken, an Army physician joined her on board the chartered Lear jet, a personal anti-killer pneumonia kit formed part of her luggage. And strict instructions were given that she wasn't to be bussed on the cheek.

This is how Presidents travel, in the time of SARS.

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday morning took off from Villamor Airbase for the Asean summit meeting on SARS, and the precautions she took reflected the importance of the fight against the dreaded Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus.

Director Edgardo Sabitsana of the Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance was the one who applied a thermometer strip to the President's forehead.

With her temperature normal, Ms. Macapagal proceeded to deliver her departure statement. She said she'll be appealing to other Asean heads of government to ensure not only the health of overseas Filipino workers employed in their countries but also to assure the security of their jobs.

"I shall seek protection within Asean, not only for the health and safety, but for the jobs, of Filipinos," the President said.

Dr. Jimmy Colacio, who has the rank of Army captain, accompanied the chief executive to monitor her health condition.

The President and her delegation was also provided with individual SARS kits consisting of N95 masks and goggles.

At the send-off ceremonies, it was all handshakes for President Macapagal's all-male wellwishers, which included Vice President Teofisto Guingona, Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, and ranking police and military officials.

Tale of two women: This Samareña is cheered

From page A1

and that she is not really a SARS patient," said Carmen Ablen, a resident of Ormoc City, who went to the hospital just to see JP for herself.

Mario Baron, 32, and a tricycle driver, vented his anger on health officials who erroneously declared JP as a SARS case.

"They should be very cautious in issuing statements and in declaring a person as a SARS patient. Look at JP, it created discrimination among her town mates and the region was also shunned like the plague by other people," he said.

And unlike her arrival at the hospital last Friday, no Special Weapons and Tactics Team members were around to secure her person.

She was escorted out from her room by Department of Health-Eastern Visayas Regional Director Mila Bacho-Bacus; Dr. Adelaida Asperin, chief of hospital; and Ligaya Anacta-Acosta, regional information officer.

The officials took off their surgical masks when they came out. Bacus told the INQUIRER that taking off their masks was their way of saying that indeed JP was not a SARS case.

When asked by the reporters how she felt, JP said she was happy and thanked God that she was not ill with SARS after all.

"I thank God. He's been good to me," JP said.

She also expressed her gratitude to all DOH local officials, including the doctor and nurses that attended to her during her stay in the hospital, as well as City Mayor Alfredo Romualdez for allowing her to stay at the hospital.

Romualdez had earlier opposed JP's confinement.

Bacus said JP would be asked not to go outside her house in Maybucong. "We advised her not to go out ... just to make sure," Bacus said.

According to Bacus, JP has to stay indoors for about 12 days. All the medical staff that attended JP during her stay at EVRMC would also be asked to go on self-quarantine for the same period, Asperin added.

Roxas admits N95 masks out of stock

From page A1

in size.

Emergency meeting

In an emergency meeting with drug manufacturers, dealers and distributors yesterday, Roxas said that 3M Philippines assured the government that it was working hard to ensure that the country retain its allocation from 3M.

Based on his discussions with the country's drug store chains, including Mercury Drug, Roxas reported that all drug stores have run out of the N95 masks because they were not ready for the sudden surge in demand.

Celia Carlo, who represents the Drug Store Association of the Philippines, said that their members normally have only two or three pieces of surgical masks in stock because nobody had any use for them in the past except hospital workers. Carlo said that most Filipinos would prioritize food in their purchases because only those with extra money can afford to buy the masks for protection.

Even San Miguel Corp., which announced its plan to distribute N95 masks to its employees for use in their offices and plants, has been having trouble getting suppliers. A top drugstore chain, according to a source, is negotiating with a Taiwanese supplier for the shipment of 10,000 boxes.

Not priced at P470

Roxas also denied reports that the price of 3M N95 masks has shot up to P470 each. He said 3M has maintained the N95 masks' price at P70 each although this could only be bought in boxes of 20 pieces. He urged consumers to report traders or stores that were peddling the masks in single packs and at prohibitive rates.

Roxas was ordered by the President Saturday to look into the scarcity of N95 masks in drugstores and their skyrocketing prices allegedly due to hoarding and price manipulation.

Roxas also urged consumers to heed the opinion by the Department of Health, World Health Organization and the US Center Disease Control that the N95 masks were only [illegible] for health workers that were [illegible] SARS cases.

Despite the shortage in ma[illegible] Roxas assured the public that the [illegible] and supply of anti-SARS products such as vitamin supplements, rubbing alcohol and hand sanitizing products have been maintained.

Fat margins

Edwin Isaac of Filipino Drug Association revealed that vitamin makers have maintained their prices despite the increase in raw materials of between 100 percent and 400 percent in the last few weeks. Isaac said that vitamin prices would remain steady even if raw material costs would increase by another 400 percent.

Roxas, who has lambasted the multinational drug companies for selling their products at exorbitant prices, refused to comment on Isaac's revelation of the drugmakers' fat margins.

When laundering money is good

From page A1

"There is no guarantee as yet [that the SARS virus won't be passed on from one person to another through money]. We have to wait for the finding that will be conclusive," Medina said in a briefing late last week at the office of Vice President Teofisto Guingona.

Citing a parallel phenomenon, Medina noted the experience in Hong Kong wherein a number were infected by touching contaminated elevator buttons.

"One can never tell because of the nature of money. It circulates widely and there is no way of knowing from whom the money passed," he said.

Airport general manager Edgardo Manda was the first to express concern over the possibility of SARS entering the Philippines through the currency brought in by travelers from SARS-infected countries.

SOS International also tried to rein in the SARS paranoia by saying that wearing masks in public places was not necessary. *(See related story on Page A18.)*

"To be infected with SARS, one must have prolonged and close contact with a person already symptomatic of SARS. Casual contact, as in the malls, won't do any harm, so wearing masks in public has no appreciative effect," Medina said.

He advised constant hand washing or use of alcohol-based disinfectants.

"Don't mind that washing your hands every so often is a sign of obsessive compulsive behavior," he said. "Bring along alcohol, [even that] in gel form. It will be effective in killing the virus."

The London-based SOS International is a group of medical experts that attend to health concerns in about 25 countries. It employs 3,000 medical professionals worldwide.

Filipinos should take refresher lessons in cleanliness, according to two leading pulmonologists.

"We are too preoccupied with masks. Let us not forget that the hand is one of the most potent means of transmitting a disease," said Dr. Alipio Abad of the Makati Medical Center.

Abad has issued a memo ordering MMC personnel to wash their hands upon entering and leaving the hospital as part of the measures against SARS.

"The washing of hands is as important as wearing masks," Abad said during a weekly forum sponsored by the Philippine College of Physicians and the Mirror Magazine.

Although people are riding on the craze in masks, especially the recommended N95, Abad said, the SARS virus could just as effectively be transmitted by hand to the mucus membrane in the eyes.

This is the reason doctors assigned to contagious diseases should wear goggles, he said.

Besides, Abad said, a mask was not only expensive but also useless when reused.

"If you reuse it, the possibility of inhaling a virus is high," he warned.

Dr. Ma. Encarnita Blanco-Limpin of the Philippine Heart Center said that if there was something good coming out of the SARS outbreak, it was the fact that people were becoming conscious of cleanliness.

"In a way this is good," she said at the same forum. "We are opening our eyes to this sickness ... that can be transmitted by cough or sneeze."

Limpin noted that in the pre-SARS days, Filipinos were known to spit anywhere or to sneeze or cough without covering their mouths.

This was how tuberculosis was spread, she said.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Now that . . .

From page A1

graphically isolated or insulated from the rest of the world is archaic at the least. The interdependence of economies must become the basis for the new public health order. Where people, ideas, products and services cross borders at lightning speed, so will microbes.

Hence, we should have proceeded from the assumption that the arrival of SARS was inevitable. We needn't have waited for its actual landing. We could have, we still can, prepare our people for the possibility of more difficult times ahead. Our leaders must have the courage to bring people to a point where individual short-term sacrifices must be made for long-term social and economic benefits. SARS now, perhaps some other virus later: It makes no difference.

Our own experience shows that nations don't need to be infected to be affected. Even before the first SARS death in the Philippines, airlines were already reporting sharp drops in the number of their passengers, companies were canceling trips to Manila and investors were scaling down their expectations of economies and businesses everywhere.

But let's not assume that the economic impact of SARS is defined by physical territory alone. We are a nation dispersed throughout every nook and cranny of the planet. And regardless of where Filipinos are, it is incumbent upon the State to use its sovereign powers to the extent that it can to protect is people, wherever they are. Filipinos are not just people who live in the Philippines.

Inevitably, our economic losses will be related to how job markets for Filipinos here and abroad may--if we don't act now--shrink even more.

Beatable disease

Second, we should stress that SARS can be beaten. Despite what doomsayers peddle, the human race will survive this disease in the same way that it has survived many other diseases in recent history.

The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control in the United States have isolated the virus and mapped its genome in fantastically record time. Even as we wait for an antidote, people by their natural immune systems are beating the virus every single day. More than 95 percent of people found with SARS will survive the disease. Just as important, we also know that the SARS virus can be avoided.

As with HIV-AIDS, both the stigma and the risk associated with SARS can be erased by simple, reasonable adjustments in behavior and lifestyle. Fidelity to a single partner, safe sex, the avoiding of drugs and the screening of blood for transfusion can guarantee people of safety from HIV-AIDS.

Because it is spread by a virus similar to and likely mutated from the organism that brings the common cold, our weapons against SARS are even simpler: Keep your resistance up by eating properly, exercising regularly and getting plenty of rest. Wash your hands. Dispose of garbage properly, attend to your personal hygiene and keep the environment clean.

In the same breath, I must add that it is simplistic to imply that major public health problems like HIV-AIDS or SARS can be solved by changing people's behavior alone. In any disease outbreak, the importance of reformed, responsive and high-quality health care systems cannot be understated. The presence of a diagnostic kit, a cure or even a vaccine for HIV-AIDS or SARS will not ensure that these tools for fighting disease will be readily available to those who need them most.

Timely information

Third, we must provide people with timely and relevant information about the disease, especially at this time in the natural course of the disease when the paralysis brought about by SARS is caused by great uncertainty that results in fear and in some instances even panic.

Further study, I believe, will bear this out: People are afraid of SARS not so much because it can cause death. They are afraid because of the realization that SARS infections immediately and directly translates to micro-economic problems: loss of jobs and loss of economic opportunities.

Given the choice, our people will put their economic interests above personal safety. This is a matter of survival. Our government should do no less, because it is also a matter of survival for our leaders. As the experience of China and Hong Kong shows, the political leadership, not just the health sector, is being put to the test.

The fear of economic loss, defined as the inability to work, the loss of freedom and autonomy to earn enough to support one's self and one's family, is perhaps the single most compelling force that will spell the difference between SARS as a national calamity that could cripple the economy or SARS as a national opportunity to sharpen our leading edge in the global and domestic markets: our human resources.

Fourth, let us ensure that our workers are healthy and safe--and communicate this to the rest of the world.

Let us not fear criticism for imposing stronger quarantine measures if this is what it will take to prevent further "importation" of SARS from returning nationals or visiting foreigners. Having been a health secretary, I know that we do not need a new law to do what needs to be done. If we need to hide

GOOD/ A19

Village bans SARS suspect

From page A1

She said she was compelled to tell the woman to leave because the residents were on the verge of panic and practically besieging the visitor.

Incensed by the expulsion, the woman's kin have threatened to sue the village leaders.

Paulino said she had apologized for the "unfortunate event" and appealed to the woman's brother to reconsider the decision to sue.

Meanwhile, Ozamiz Vice Mayor Carlos Bernad is seeking a protocol on reporting SARS-related stories.

Bernad said utmost consideration should be accorded the privacy of persons suspected of being SARS carriers.

Dr. Daniel Medina, city health director, said the public should not pass judgment until after the necessary tests had established the true condition of suspected SARS cases.

Nevertheless, Medina described the Tinago residents' behavior as a "healthy sign of vigilance against the disease."

"I just hope these indications of vigilance are translated into actual prevention actions," he said.

The widespread anxiety is resulting in cold cash for pharmacies.

As of Monday, the city's largest drug store was "out of stock" of surgical masks, including items intended only for display.

Leo Tan, proprietor of another pharmacy, said sales had risen by 400 percent since Saturday.

In Alabang, Metro Manila, the granddaughter of the late Mauricio Catalon is preparing to leave her isolation quarters at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM).

"I have no fever, no cough and respiratory difficulty," Jennifer Catalon, 27, said in an interview with dzBB radio early yesterday.

She said she was not anxious to be released, but was willing to wait for health officials to declare her completely safe.

Jennifer took care of her grandfather before he died of SARS on April 22. Mauricio was infected by his daughter Adela, who died on April 14.

"They all wear masks and gowns. They look like astronauts in protective suits . . . But they are good to me," Jennifer said of the RITM doctors attending to her.

RITM director Dr. Remigio Olveda, who was earlier in Tacloban City to check on isolation facilities there, confirmed that Jennifer's condition had improved in the last 36 hours.

He said she had fever on three occasions during her 10-day stay, but was well as of yesterday morning.

He also said Jennifer and her five remaining relatives at the RITM were not showing SARS symptoms and might be discharged on Friday.

Dr. Maria Consorcia Quizon, acting head of the National Epidemiology Center, also said the Catalons would be released Friday, the end of their 14-day quarantine.

She said the Department of Health had allowed the family to hold a wake for Mauricio because they would all be deemed clear of SARS by Friday.

According to Quizon, a total of 12 persons are under quarantine at various hospitals.

She said that so far, 61 persons had been confined for more than 24 hours at the RITM, San Lazaro Hospital and hospitals in Region 1, 2, 6, 7 and Metro Manila.

But they are all negative for SARS, she said.

Quizon also said the DOH was looking into the case of an overseas Filipino worker brought in as a SARS "suspect" from Isabela.

The OFW had come from the Middle East but stayed in Hong Kong for two weeks.

In Laoag City, Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has sought an extended suspension of the flights to and from Hong Kong for the whole month of May.

The suspension is to be lifted on May 3, but reports of the local transmission of SARS prompted Marcos to extend it. His spokesperson Lito Gorospe said the governor would announce the extension at his regular press briefing today.

Air Philippines earlier cancelled its Hong Kong-Laoag flights beginning April 14 in compliance with Marcos' request.

Dr. Rosito Tamayo, quarantine officer at the Laoag International Airport, said Ilocos Norte remained SARS-free despite continued flights from Guangdong in China and Kaoshiung in Taiwan.

Tamayo attributed this to the strict health protocol imposed on all air travelers.

"Our procedure starts by coordinating our efforts [with airport officials] at the entry points of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Guangdong. Passengers will not be allowed to board the plane if they fail to undergo checkup and interview," he said.

The Philippine Information Agency in Laoag has been running a regular radio program in the state-run Radyo ng Bayan to help raise public awareness on SARS.

During the radio program, Tamayo received text messages inquiring about the possibility of infection of employees holding office near the airport.

"That's an unwarranted fear," Tamayo said. "There is no reason to fear the air at the airport. I myself only use my mask when I board a plane."

Noting that false information could spark panic, Tamayo urged residents to keep calm.

"I received a tip about a hotel employee who was supposedly in hiding because he was sick. It took me all day to track this person [in various hotels]," he said.

The employee turned out to be a staff member of the Fort Ilocandia Resort and Casino who recently went to Guangdong for a cooking demonstration.

Tamayo said he advised the employee to observe a 10-day quarantine.

In Manila, Senate President Franklin Drilon said he was not in favor of a "harsher" penalty for people who refuse to be put under quarantine for SARS or other infectious diseases.

"Imposing a heavier penalty, I think, is not called for," he told reporters when asked to comment on a bill filed by Sen. Manuel Villar seeking higher penalties for quarantine violators.

Drilon noted that many of those afflicted with SARS were OFWs, and said what was important was the prevention of the transmission of the SARS virus.

At present, a violator of quarantine regulations is punished with a fine of not more than P2,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.

Laws sufficient

"I believe our quarantine laws, even if they are nearly half a century old, would still be sufficient to address this problem," Drilon said.

Villar has filed a bill seeking to amend Republic Act 123 by granting additional powers to the Bureau of Quarantine.

The bill proposes for quarantine violators a fine of not more than P10,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both. Those who refuse to go on isolation after developing an infectious disease face a fine of not more than P20,000 or a jail term of not more than two years, or both. *With reports from Cristina Arzadon and Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Christine O. Avendaño in Manila*

This time, no more 'beso-beso' for GMA

By Carlito Pablo

SHE had her temperature taken, an Army physician joined her on board the chartered Lear jet, a personal anti-killer pneumonia kit formed part of her luggage. And strict instructions were given that she wasn't to be bussed on the cheek.

This is how Presidents travel, in the time of SARS.

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday morning took off from Villamor Airbase for the Asean summit meeting on SARS, and the precautions she took reflected the importance of the fight against the dreaded Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus.

Director Edgardo Sabitsana of the Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance was the one who applied a thermometer strip to the President's forehead.

With her temperature normal, Ms. Macapagal proceeded to deliver her departure statement. She said she'll be appealing to other Asean heads of government to ensure not only the health of overseas Filipino workers employed in their countries but also to assure the security of their jobs.

"I shall seek protection within Asean, not only for the health and safety, but for the jobs, of Filipinos," the President said.

Dr. Jimmy Colacio, who has the rank of Army captain, accompanied the chief executive to monitor her health condition.

The President and her delegation was also provided with individual SARS kits consisting of N95 masks and goggles.

At the send-off ceremonies, it was all handshakes for President Macapagal's all-male wellwishers, which included Vice President Teofisto Guingona, Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, and ranking police and military officials.

Tale of two women: This Samareña is cheered

From page A1

and that she is not really a SARS patient," said Carmen Ablen, a resident of Ormoc City, who went to the hospital just to see JP for herself.

Mario Baron, 32, and a tricycle driver, vented his anger on health officials who erroneously declared JP as a SARS case.

"They should be very cautious in issuing statements and in declaring a person as a SARS patient. Look at JP, it created discrimination among her town mates and the region was also shunned like the plague by other people," he said.

And unlike her arrival at the hospital last Friday, no Special Weapons and Tactics Team members were around to secure her person.

She was escorted out from her room by Department of Health-Eastern Visayas Regional Director Mila Bacho-Bacus; Dr. Adelaida Asperin, chief of hospital; and Ligaya Anacta-Acosta, regional information officer.

The officials took off their surgical masks when they came out. Bacus told the INQUIRER that taking off their masks was their way of saying that indeed JP was not a SARS case.

When asked by the reporters how she felt, JP said she was happy and thanked God that she was not ill with SARS after all.

"I thank God. He's been good to me," JP said.

She also expressed her gratitude to all DOH local officials, including the doctor and nurses that attended to her during her stay in the hospital, as well as City Mayor Alfredo Romualdez for allowing her to stay at the hospital.

Romualdez had earlier opposed JP's confinement.

Bacus said JP would be asked not to go outside her house in Maybucong. "We advised her not to go out ... just to make sure," Bacus said.

According to Bacus, JP has to stay indoors for about 12 days. All the medical staff that attended JP during her stay at EVRMC would also be asked to go on self-quarantine for the same period, Asperin added.

Roxas admits N95 masks out of stock

From page A1

in size.

Emergency meeting

In an emergency meeting with drug manufacturers, dealers and distributors yesterday, Roxas said that 3M Philippines assured the government that it was working hard to ensure that the country retain its allocation from 3M.

Based on his discussions with the country's drug store chains, including Mercury Drug, Roxas reported that all drug stores have run out of the N95 masks because they were not ready for the sudden surge in demand.

Celia Carlo, who represents the Drug Store Association of the Philippines, said that their members normally have only two or three pieces of surgical masks in stock because nobody had any use for them in the past except hospital workers. Carlo said that most Filipinos would prioritize food in their purchases because only those with extra money can afford to buy the masks for protection.

Even San Miguel Corp., which announced its plan to distribute N95 masks to its employees for use in their offices and plants, has been having trouble getting suppliers. A top drugstore chain, according to a source, is negotiating with a Taiwanese supplier for the shipment of 10,000 boxes.

Not priced at P470

Roxas also denied reports that the price of 3M N95 masks has shot up to P470 each. He said 3M has maintained the N95 masks' price at P70 each although this could only be bought in boxes of 20 pieces. He urged consumers to report traders or stores that were peddling the masks in single packs and at prohibitive rates.

Roxas was ordered by the President Saturday to look into the scarcity of N95 masks in drugstores and their skyrocketing prices allegedly due to hoarding and price manipulation.

Roxas also urged consumers to heed the opinion by the Department of Health, World Health Organization and the US Center Disease Control [illegible] that the N95 masks were only ess[illegible]l for health workers that were [illegible]dling SARS cases.

Despite the shortage in ma[illegible] Roxas assured the public that the [illegible]e and supply of anti-SARS products such as vitamin supplements, rubbing alcohol and hand sanitizing products have been maintained.

Fat margins

Edwin Isaac of Filipino Drug Association revealed that vitamin makers have maintained their prices despite the increase in raw materials of between 100 percent and 400 percent in the last few weeks. Isaac said that vitamin prices would remain steady even if raw material costs would increase by another 400 percent.

Roxas, who has lambasted the multinational drug companies for selling their products at exorbitant prices, refused to comment on Isaac's revelation of the drugmakers' fat margins.

When laundering money is good

From page A1

"There is no guarantee as yet [that the SARS virus won't be passed on from one person to another through money]. We have to wait for the finding that will be conclusive," Medina said in a briefing late last week at the office of Vice President Teofisto Guingona.

Citing a parallel phenomenon, Medina noted the experience in Hong Kong wherein a number were infected by touching contaminated elevator buttons.

"One can never tell because of the nature of money. It circulates widely and there is no way of knowing from whom the money passed," he said.

Airport general manager Edgardo Manda was the first to express concern over the possibility of SARS entering the Philippines through the currency brought in by travelers from SARS-infected countries.

SOS International also tried to rein in the SARS paranoia by saying that wearing masks in public places was not necessary. *(See related story on Page A18.)*

"To be infected with SARS, one must have prolonged and close contact with a person already symptomatic of SARS. Casual contact, as in the malls, won't do any harm, so wearing masks in public has no appreciative effect," Medina said.

He advised constant hand washing or use of alcohol-based disinfectants.

"Don't mind that washing your hands every so often is a sign of obsessive compulsive behavior," he said. "Bring along alcohol, [even that] in gel form. It will be effective in killing the virus."

The London-based SOS International is a group of medical experts that attend to health concerns in about 25 countries. It employs 3,000 medical professionals worldwide.

Filipinos should take refresher lessons in cleanliness, according to two leading pulmonologists.

"We are too preoccupied with masks. Let us not forget that the hand is one of the most potent means of transmitting a disease," said Dr. Alipio Abad of the Makati Medical Center.

Abad has issued a memo ordering MMC personnel to wash their hands upon entering and leaving the hospital as part of the measures against SARS.

"The washing of hands is as important as wearing masks," Abad said during a weekly forum sponsored by the Philippine College of Physicians and the Mirror Magazine.

Although people are riding on the craze in masks, especially the recommended N95, Abad said, the SARS virus could just as effectively be transmitted by hand to the mucus membrane in the eyes.

This is the reason doctors assigned to contagious diseases should wear goggles, he said.

Besides, Abad said, a mask was not only expensive but also useless when reused.

"If you reuse it, the possibility of inhaling a virus is high," he warned.

Dr. Ma. Encarnita Blanco-Limpin of the Philippine Heart Center said that if there was something good coming out of the SARS outbreak, it was the fact that people were becoming conscious of cleanliness.

"In a way this is good," she said at the same forum. "We are opening our eyes to this sickness . that can be transmitted by cough or sneeze."

Limpin noted that in the pre-SARS days, Filipinos were known to spit anywhere or to sneeze or cough without covering their mouths.

This was how tuberculosis was spread, she said.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

World overreacting to SARS, say AIDS experts

WASHINGTON—People around the world are overreacting to SARS, creating a sense of panic that could overwhelm common-sense measures for containing the virus, top AIDS experts said on Monday.

And sensational media coverage of SARS has fanned the flames, said David Baltimore, who won the 1975 Nobel Prize in medicine for his work on how viruses cause disease.

"I think there has been overreaction," said Baltimore, a leading AIDS researcher who is now president of the California Institute of Technology.

"I have to agree with that," added Dr. David Ho, another top AIDS expert who heads the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center in New York. "Obviously, the fear comes from the fact that this is a novel disease. Many aspects of this epidemic are still mysterious. Fear of SARS is outrunning SARS per se."

Ho and Baltimore ought to know. AIDS kills virtually everyone it infects without treatment and 20 years into the AIDS epidemic there is no cure and no vaccine.

In contrast, 94 percent of SARS patients recover.

Baltimore said boycotts of Chinese-owned businesses and scenes of people walking the streets of Hong Kong wearing surgical masks show that the general public does not understand the real dangers.

"People clearly have reacted to it with a level of fear that is incommensurate with the size of the problem and I think it is getting in the way of a reasonable response."

While SARS is new and frightening, its impact, so far, has been minor. In a mild year, influenza and its complications kill an estimated 250,000 people around the world. Malaria kills at least a million, mostly children.

Yet earlier this month two Chinese runners were asked to pull out of a marathon in the Netherlands because of SARS fears. Many cities have reported people are avoiding Chinatown districts—including New York, where no SARS case has been confirmed. *Reuters*

Chinese villagers riot over quarantine plan

BEIJING—Around 2,000 villagers of Chagugang town torched an abandoned school building earmarked as a SARS quarantine center, ransacked government offices and overturned cars in China's first reported instance of social unrest related to SARS, officials said yesterday.

The mayhem in Chagugang, a rural area close to the heavily populated port city of Tianjin, happened on Sunday night after the Tianjin government decided to convert a school into an isolation facility for urban people suspected of having contact with SARS patients.

Chagugang, a township of 32,500 people, is about 70 km southeast of Beijing. It has so far reported 43 SARS cases, including two deaths. It has also acknowledged 67 suspected cases.

"The plan was to transform the high school into an isolation center," a Chagugang official, who did not want to be named, told AFP. "When nearby villagers heard this, they feared they would (catch) the disease. The head of the village explained to the people but they wouldn't listen."

He said about 2,000 angry residents marched to the school and ransacked it, smashing windows before setting it on fire.

"Then they went to the local education office and smashed it ... Then they went to the town government office and smashed the whole building, breaking windows, removing doors and throwing them out of windows. They broke in and smashed everything; they overturned vehicles. All facilities are out of use now," the official said.

The official said armed police and anti-riot forces arrived but by that time the villagers had run away. Residents yesterday said between 10 and 20 people had been arrested.

The official estimated the crowd was 2,000-strong but only a core of 30 to 40 people took part in the destruction.

"The rest cheered them on," he said.

Residents showed no remorse yesterday, voicing outrage that the government claimed to be trying to stop SARS spreading to the countryside but at the same time it wanted to send urban suspect cases to their township.

A former teacher, now a village education official, suggested there was more to the matter than just SARS.

"The issue wasn't just a question of SARS. Other issues were involved, like corruption," he said.

The director of the Tianjin foreign affairs office, in a fax to AFP, confirmed the incident but said everything was now calm.

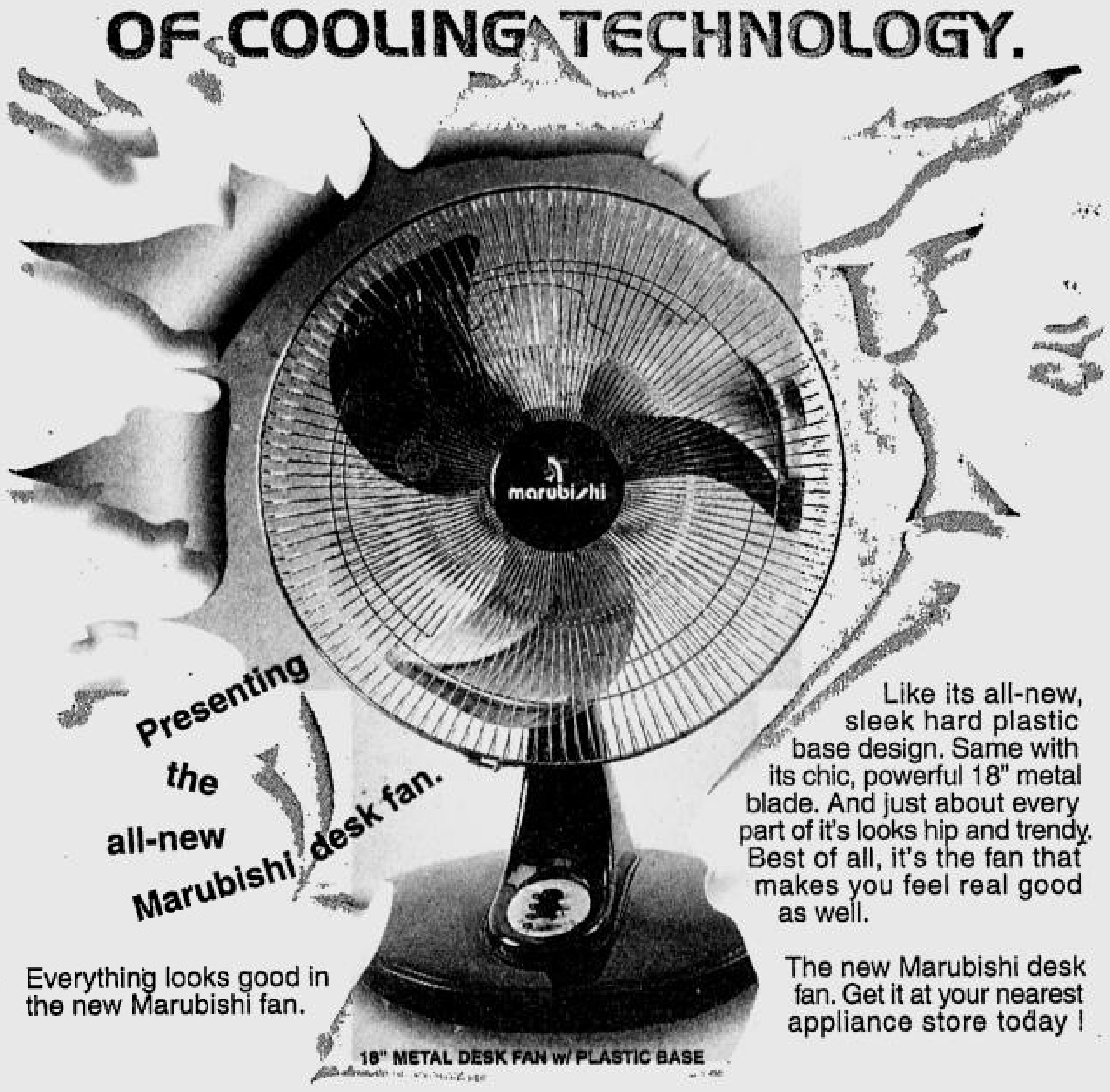
"Because of some people's complaints the government of the district announced the cancelation of this observation station on (Sunday) at 4 p.m.," said Chen Weiming. "But at 6 p.m., stirred by some people, several dozens of villagers who didn't know the truth smashed ... the school building and the windows and doors of the township government."

Beijing hospitals treating more than 1,000 patients with SARS are running short of drugs and surgical masks. Doctors and nurses are overworked and demoralized at the expanding number of hospitals assigned to handle SARS, Beijing Health Bureau deputy director Deng Xiaohong was quoted by the Beijing Times as saying.

To ease the burden, China's military is sending 1,200 doctors and nurses to Beijing. And the city government says it is adding nine hospitals to the six already designated to handle SARS. Yesterday it started using ambulances to move hundreds of non-SARS cases to other institutions.

AFP, Reuters, AP

PRESENTING, THE NEW LOOK OF COOLING TECHNOLOGY.



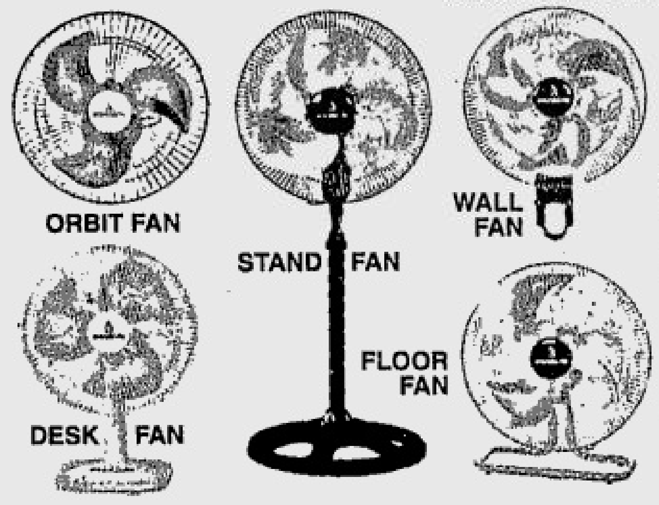
Presenting the all-new Marubishi desk fan.

Everything looks good in the new Marubishi fan.

Like its all-new, sleek hard plastic base design. Same with its chic, powerful 18" metal blade. And just about every part of it's looks hip and trendy. Best of all, it's the fan that makes you feel real good as well.

The new Marubishi desk fan. Get it at your nearest appliance store today !

ALSO AVAILABLE



FEATURES :

- Quite, powerful, heavy duty motor
- Tough, durable blade
- Rust-free, chrome-guarded Base
- Long-lasting Switch Motor
- Safety guard features
- Hard plastic base

CERTIFIED Product Quality

America loves it. You'll cherish it.

marubishi HOME APPLIANCES

Now that we've ...

From page A18

behind more laws, and use up precious time that should be spent acting, we are truly headed for economic decline.

What we must do now is what all other nations must consider doing in a globalized economy. The whole world should work toward universal pre-departure quarantine standards of perhaps about 10 days, to cover the incubation period of the disease. An alternative: a five-day quarantine at point of exit and a five-day quarantine at point of entry.

Mandatory quarantine

In the absence of universal pre-departure quarantines, what the Philippines can do to protect those who are arriving from overseas work and their families who await them is to develop a 10-day mandatory arrival quarantine, with good facilities, trained infection control teams and the highest affordable standards we can achieve.

The worst thing that could happen to us would be stigma and marginalization of our OFWs in their community and within their families.

On the other hand, it is in our best interest to impose a pre-departure quarantine of the highest possible standards as well. Libya has banned the entry of workers from SARS-infected areas; other countries will follow.

We need not wait for any international agreements. We should pilot this; the Philippines has an opportunity to be the first country in the world to enforce a strict pre-departure quarantine for overseas workers. We need to send a signal to the world that our workers are healthy.

Fifth, let us mobilize all sectors of society to enlighten, inform and enable individuals to have healthier lifestyles.

To address local transmission, let us work together for an effective information campaign. Perhaps the major networks can sponsor a 24-hour telethon and invite scientists, political leaders, celebrities and ordinary people to deliver key messages on improving personal hygiene, ensuring environmental sanitation and creating from this crisis a cleaner, healthier Philippines.

Let us jointly come up with clear standards for personal hygiene with other sectors. We should communicate this in such a way that the ordinary person on the street can understand. Who should use masks? How often should we wash our hands? What is the definition of a fever? We should saturate all possible settings with information: schools, public places, health centers, public transport, churches, workplaces.

Sixth, let us use this opportunity to strengthen public health in our country.

Let us not shrink from the responsibility of caring for those who are sick, whether they are at home or in the hospital. Let us prepare our hospitals by training our health workers and providing what is needed to establish good infection control.

Let us use the SARS epidemic as a means of implementing reforms in the financing of health services. Let us bring the standards of local public health systems up and perhaps strive to protect entire islands as tourist destinations.

Let us put our best minds together to beat SARS, and save the demand for our workers here and abroad.

Over the years, I have come to one and only one conclusion in motivating people to choose healthier behaviors. The compelling force for change must be larger than health.

Health itself is often only a means toward something else that is of value to society.

In today's context, we must be united in our desire to save whatever economic opportunities we have and perhaps expand these if we can. This should be the reason for everything that we must do in relation to SARS.

We must achieve health as a means to a stronger economy. Good health is good economics.

The author was the Secretary of Health from 1992 to 1995.

Get a FREE one-year extended warranty on a new APC UPS

"I've worked in the management of Hewlett Packard in the US and have known APC for their excellent services."

- Michael McDaniel, Stock Trader

BEYOND POWER PROTECTION

FREE 1-Year

Simply fill out the enclosed Warranty Entitlement Certificate and return to APC APC standard on-site replacement warranty is for 2 years... now get 3!

Only one thing offers more uptime than an APC UPS... that's APC on-site warranty services.

When blackouts, surges and sags are the largest cause of PC and server problems like file corruption, frozen monitors and keyboard lockups, you need the best power protection available. To ensure complete system availability, you need an advanced UPS from a company that has the resources to service your unique power protection needs.

Now you can receive a FREE one-year extended warranty on a new APC Back-UPS®, Back-UPS Pro or Smart-UPS®. Simply send us your completely filled-out entitlement certificate found inside the APC product box and the standard 2-year on-site replacement warranty is automatically extended to three at no cost to you. For three whole years your new APC UPS will be supported by an on-site replacement warranty, which covers the UPS battery, spare parts and labour costs. Now there will be no need to travel to a service center for any repair or maintenance procedures – we'll come to you.*

Remember. Power protection systems are only as good as the service programs that ensure their continuous operation. Contact APC today and find out why over 12 million customers worldwide rely on our Legendary Reliability™.

APC
Legendary Reliability™

Name: ______
Job Title: ______
Company: ______
Address: ______
______
City/Town: ______
Postal Code: ______
Phone: ______
Fax: ______
E-mail: ______
How many PCs do you want to protect? ______
☐ Corporate End User ☐ SOHO ☐ Reseller

Fax now at (+632) 637 5580 or call (+632) 637 5457

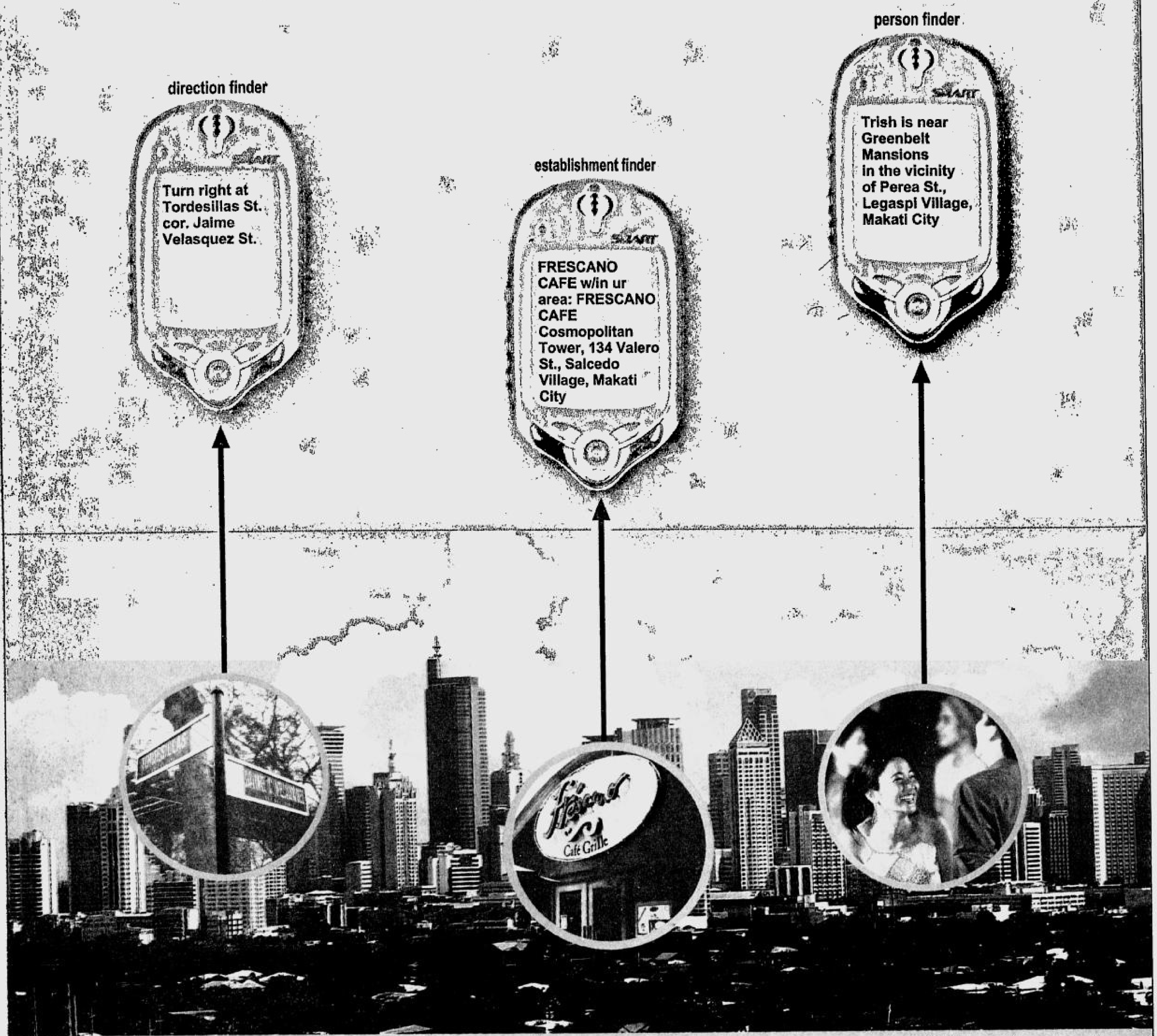
APC Philippines: Unit 2502, The Orient Square, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
©2003 American Power Conversion Corporation. All Trademarks are the property of their respective owners. APC1J3EF-PH
*Key Code: 40677e *Applicable for Back-UPS CS and Back-UPS MI models only.*

FREE APC Product Information

☐ YES! Please send me FREE APC product information.
☐ YES! I want to purchase an APC product with FREE 1-year extended warranty. Please have an APC representative contact me today.

www.apc.com/ph

SMART zed™



Turn right at Tordesillas St. cor. Jaime Velasquez St.

FRESCANO CAFE w/in ur area: FRESCANO CAFE Cosmopolitan Tower, 134 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City

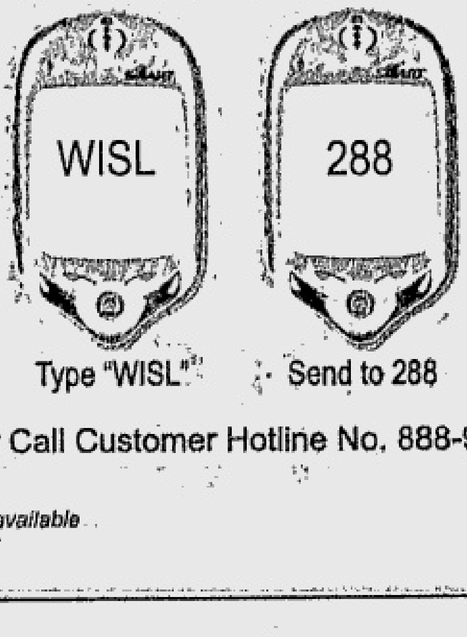
Trish is near Greenbelt Mansions in the vicinity of Perea St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Find people and places easily with

WISL
Where Is Locator

Exclusive to SMART & TALK 'N TEXT Subscribers

For more details:



Type "WISL" Send to 288

Or Call Customer Hotline No. 888-9105

*Soon to be available

Locate people, establishments, and directions fast and easy with SMART zed WISL—the Where Is Locator. SMART zed WISL is the new location-based service available through text. Now, you can have peace of mind as it allows you to find people, establishments and directions with WISL Person Finder, Establishment Finder, and Direction Finder.*

For worry-free location information, activate your SMART zed WISL today!

powered by anis
ASIAN NAVIGATION AND TRACKING SYSTEMS, INC.

Asean plus China agree on SARS battle plan

From page A1

the chief executive of Hong Kong, which has reported 150 deaths.

More than half of Asean members have reported SARS deaths: Singapore, 22; Vietnam, five; Malaysia, two; Philippines, two; Thailand, two; and Indonesia, one.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and China hope to dispel widespread fear of SARS and convince a spooked world that they are undertaking efficient measures to contain the spread of the deadly disease. The SARS crisis has cost the region's economy and tourism sectors dearly.

"It's the lack of informaɗon that causes fear of SARS . . . which is more destructive than SARS itself. That's the consensus," said President Macapagal who briefed Filipino reporters on the mechanics of the the regional information network, the setting up of a SARS health emergency fund, and 18 other measures agreed upon at the Asean summit.

Ms Macapagal said Dr. David Heymann, World Health Organization's chief of communicable diseases, stressed to her and other Southeast Asian leaders, the importance of sharing information, best practices and new findings among Asean members—Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

"Even if there is no known cure, there's a way of preventing it (SARS) from spreading," she said. "That's the important thing."

China and Thailand pledged initial seed money of $1.2 million and $250,000 for an Asian fund to study and devise preventive measures against SARS. But Ms Macapagal said the bulk of the money for the fund would be sourced from a $1-billion grant given to the Asean Foundation for AIDS.

"This summit, Asean plus China, will create confidence in the world community that this region has responded to the problem, and that the situation will be put under control by close collaboration," Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra told reporters.

A draft Asean-China joint statement prepared by the Chinese proposed a meeting between regional immigration officials "to coordinate entry-and-exit policies and measures in response to SARS control and treatment."

The draft also proposed cooperative research and the holding of a high-level international symposium on SARS in China next month.

"We note that SARS has already had a serious adverse impact on the economic development, social functioning, and international exchanges and cooperation in our countries and this region," the draft said. "SARS represents a formidable threat and challenge to the economic and social development of this region."

The WHO said the incidence of SARS had peaked in many places, but it voiced fears the situation was worsening in China where nine new deaths and 200 more infections were also announced on Tuesday. Nearly 10,000 people who might have been exposed to the virus have been put under home quarantine in China—including 7,600 in Beijing.

Hong Kong yesterday said it had another 12 fatalities. Three more nations—Mongolia, South Korea and New Zealand—joined the list of nations with SARS infections.

The new SARS deaths brought the worldwide toll to at least 354. There have been more than 5,300 infections reported in over 30 countries.

Draft declaration

According to the draft Asean declaration that is expected to be issued late Tuesday night, the Southeast Asian leaders pledged to keep their borders and economies open despite the crisis.

The draft declaration said the leaders recognized "the need for members to take individual and collective responsibility to implement stringent measures to control and contain the spread of SARS."

The Asean SARS Containment Information Network was recommended by Singapore, the country in Southeast Asia worst hit by SARS. The city-state has suffered 23 SARS deaths.

In a discussion paper distributed at the summit, Singapore said: "Through this network, Asean member countries could share essential information as well as best practices distilled from their experience in dealing with SARS."

Other measures that were to be adopted by the summit include:

- Ensure proper pre-departure health screening for travelers at the point of origin.
- Establish standardized measures for proper health screening.
- Cooperate in providing public information and education to promote awareness.
- Strengthen cooperation among front-line enforcement agencies.
- Establish and strengthen early warning system on emerging infectious diseases. *With reports by AP and AFP*

QUALIFIERS FOR PHYSICS TEACHING SCHOLARSHIPS NAMED

Dr. Ester B. Ogena, Director of the Science Education Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST-SEI), announces the names of the qualifiers for the Physics Teaching Scholarships.

Of the 16,416 examinees who belonged to the upper 5% of their graduating classes and took the DOST-SEI Undergraduate Scholarship Examination on January 19, 2003, sixty (60) qualified for the Physics Teaching Scholarships.

Each qualifier will be notified about the scholarship award. The awardees will enroll at the Philippine Normal University (PNU), Taft Ave., Manila, and are requested to report together with mother or father at PNU for the signing of the Scholarship Agreement. They should bring the following requirements: Original and Photocopy of Birth Certificate, Original Certificate of Good Moral Character, Original Form 138/Report Card, 4 pcs 1x1 Colored ID Picture, accompanying parent's 2003 Residence Certificate and notarization fee of P50.00.

Scholarship privileges include tuition fees per semester, monthly stipend of P3,450.00, book allowance of P1,500.00 per semester, allowance for PE and Military Science Uniform during the first year only, provision for a round trip transportation expense per year and group accident insurance. Below are the names of the Physics Teaching qualifiers at the Philippine Normal University:

Physics Teaching

Esguerra, Maelina Thearea A.
Cabral, Reniel B.
Del Rey, Ammie Grace P.
Dimaya, Danica Angeline P.
Delos Reyes, Lea Ann B.
Canosa, Jonnell C.
Cisneros, Ma. Rosanna E.
Artuza, John Mark V.
Magdalena, Marion G.
Labra, Jay Ann M.
Legarto, Madel C.
Tamisen, Joie Alfred T.
Ompoc, Jose Roman
Pasagul, Eden Troy N.
Galino, Jeffrey R.
Torres, Karole Joseph M.
Francisco, Carlos II E.
Tundag, Nathaniel G.
Gutierrez, Angela C.
Torio, Von Anthony B.
Romano, Luther F.
Saniel, Suzanne C.
Jubilan, Mark Timothy W.
Beltran, Jay N.
Acuña,. Irene C.
Hawang, Arvin A.
Gelloagan, April Rose M.
Tonito, Mary Grace A.
Marbas, Ivan Art F.
Muñez, Paterno Jr. A.

Physics and Technology Teaching

Baniqued, Ma. Gay Ofalene G.
Lerit, Argin C.
Magdayao, Rensy L.
Erazo, Joel II P.
Montecillo, Andrew D.
Victoria, Marvin S.
Pimentel, Christopher D.
Morales, Juliney Ann L.
Valmores, Jan Darryl M.
Trio, Patrick Janseen B.
Foja, John Edward F.
Lalog, Arby Roxane S.
Alavazo, Jonalyn C.
Bacaling, Maricel D.
Babatuan, leslie Joie E.
Mempin, Charizza Dominique C.
Miguel, Manuel G.
Tarucan, Rohya C.
Del Rosario, Joseph Carl G.
Rivera, Ross Ann B.
Del Rosario, Roxane Eliza B.
Salonga, Robert Jeremy M.
Viernes, Jestoni T.
Tampos, Caesar Niguitte R.
Villamin, Maria Emma C.
Lindawan, Brent S.
Buot, Kathleen Joy N.
Talaban, Daryl D.J.
Marmol, Erick John H.
Amante, Ma. Virgie L.

2 broadcasters ambushed . . .

From page A1

the attack.

John Villanueva Jr., known in Albay as Mr. Public Service, was shot dead Monday night in Camalig town while he was about 200 meters from his home.

Villanueva, 54, popularly known as Jun V of Legazpi City's dzGB-AM, was shot several times in Barangay Tagaytay by two still unidentified suspects as he was on his way home on a motorcycle from his radio program "Banguerahan."

The broadcaster, also known as "*pinakamabait sa* GB" (the kindest dzGB broadcaster), was taken to the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital. After an hour, attending doctors declared him dead.

The military had once invited him for questioning on suspicion that he was a supporter of the New People's Army. He ignored the invitation.

In Davao City, Jun Porras Pala was riding a taxi on his way home, along with his three bodyguards, when a group of still unidentified men fired on them yesterday morning on the Vincent Hides, Mamay Road in Buhangin District.

It was the second attempt on the life of Pala, who became famous for his staunch anti-communist campaign on dxOW in the 1980s.

He was first ambushed in 2001.

Pala, 48, host of a daily program over Manila Broadcasting Co.'s dxGO, was hit in the buttocks and was immediately taken to the hospital. Physicians remove a 9 mm slug from his buttock.

Vigilante group

He founded the anti-communist vigilante group Contra Force and served as Davao City councilor for two consecutive terms. In 2001, he ran but lost in the vice mayoralty race against the group of his former ally, Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

In an interview over dxGO, Pala said his attackers sprayed the taxi with bullets.

He said he and his bodyguards were on their usual "taxi ride" at around 9:30 a.m. when a black van suddenly blocked their path. Shortly after, he said, the armed men on board the van fired on them.

Pala said he and his three bodyguards managed to draw their guns and returned fire, forcing the suspects to drive away.

"I know we hit some of them," he said.

He suspected that some police officers were behind the attempt to kill him. He did not elaborate.

About 39 journalists have been murdered in the Philippines since democracy was restored in 1986, making the country one of the most perilous in the world for members of the media, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said earlier this month in its annual report.

No one has been convicted for any of the murders.

In Camalig, Albay, Villanueva, a former vice mayor of the town, suffered 11 gunshot wounds that severely damaged some of his internal organs, including his liver, according to Dr. Tirso de los Reyes who conducted the autopsy on the broadcaster.

Media groups led by Kilusan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas-Albay Chapter, government agencies, nongovernment organizations and the public condemned the murder of Villanueva.

Assault on press freedom

The Albay-Legazpi Press Association (Alpa) described the killing as an assault on press freedom and as a dastardly act against a mediaman whose only fault was to readily give assistance to anybody who asked for help.

"Jun V had touched the lives of many folk, especially the needy," Alpa said in a statement.

Last year, Villanueva reportedly received an invitation from the 22nd Infantry Battalion based in Ligao City, asking him to report to its office as it was alleged that he was a "supporter of the New People's Army."

His colleague in dzGB, Lito Brecia, confirmed the existence of the "invitation," which, he said, he had read on the air. Villanueva allegedly ignored the invitation.

Militant organizations asked the police to include the military angle in the investigation.

It was through Villanueva's initiative that an abducted police officer was released by the NPA a couple of years ago. His colleagues and family described the initiative as a deed of a good public servant.

Villanueva had served the broadcast industry for more than 20 years. His programs—Buhay mo, Kapakanan mo, Sagot ko, a public service program, and Banguerahan, a semi-entertainment show—had helped people in need of services and items ranging from medical assistance to coffins for their dead.

Col. Pedrito Magsino, commanding officer of the 901st Infantry Brigade (Separate), dismissed the possible involvement of soldiers in the killing.

In an interview with the INQUIRER Magsino said he did not know about the "letter" sent by the 22IB as he was not yet in his present post at the time.

Because of the killing, Rodgie Abril, president of the KBP-Albay Chapter, convened all KBP officials in the city yesterday afternoon to come up with measures to ensure the safety of media practitioners in Albay.

In a radio statement aired over dzGB, PNP Chief Hermogenes Ebdane instructed Senior Supt. Pedro Tango, Albay police chief, to speed up the investigation as he condemned the series of killings in the province.

Motorcycles

Tango said his men were investigating the killing and gathering information that could be used in tracing the suspects.

The ambush was patterned after the previous killings in Camalig and neighboring towns in which suspects used motorcycles as their getaway vehicles, according to the Albay police chief.

Chief Insp. Pio Herrera, Camalig police chief, said that based on the accounts of witnesses the suspects were wearing bonnets.

Herrera and his men recovered eight empty shells of .45 cal. pistol from the crime scene and the broken cellular phone of the slain journalist. *With a report from AFP*

Now in its
28th year

THE
SEC. GUILLERMO DE VEGA
SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS FOR ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

P6.4 MILLION WORTH
OF STUDENT FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE IN ARCHITECTURE
OR IN ANY OF THE FIVE
OR FOUR-YEAR ENGINEERING
PROGRAMS AT THE TIP

WHO MAY APPLY

OPEN TO BONAFIDE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH 80% OR ABOVE GENERAL AVERAGE IN 4TH YEAR H.S. OR 80% OR ABOVE FINAL GRADE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS: MATH IV, SCIENCE IV, OR ENGLISH IV.

WHAT ARE THE GRANTS

1ST PLACER
GRANTEE GETS A TOTAL OUTLAY OF P188,000 FOR ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.
- P 50,000 TO COVER FIFTY(50) MONTHLY STIPENDS (P1000 PER MONTH) THROUGH FIVE (5) SCHOOL YEARS
- P 138,000 TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE IN ARCHITECTURE OR IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR ENGINEERING PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

2ND TO 41ST PLACERS
TOTAL OUTLAY OF P5.5 M FOR THE FORTY (40) SCHOLARS TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

42ND TO 101ST PLACERS
TOTAL OUTLAY OF P708,000 FOR THE SIXTY (60) SCHOLARS TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

WHERE TO FILE APPLICATION
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR, TIP
363 P. CASAL ST., QUIAPO, MANILA
OR
938 AURORA BLVD., CUBAO, QUEZON CITY

APPLICANTS SHOULD BRING THEIR FORM 138 AND 2 COPIES OF 2X2 ID PICTURE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2003

WHEN TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION
SCHEDULE OF COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS IN MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH IS SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2003, 9:00 TO 11:00 AM AT TIP MANILA/QC

OTHER ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS AND DISCOUNTS

VALEDICTORIANS
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS, PLUS A STIPEND OF P1,000 PER SEMESTER FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS.

SALUTATORIANS
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS, PLUS A STIPEND OF P1,000 FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER.

3RD TO 10TH RANKING H.S. GRADUATES
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER.

90% or above general average (4th Year H.S.) or 90% or above final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	Free tuition and basic miscellaneous fees (Registration, Library, Medical and Dental, Guidance and Counseling, Athletics) for one (1) semester
85% - 89% general average or 85% - 89% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	Free tuition fee for one (1) semester
83% - 84% general average or 83% - 84% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	80% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester
81% - 82% general average or 81% - 82% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	60% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester
80% general average or 80% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	50% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester

www.tip.edu.ph
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant redefinition of academic life

MANILA CAMPUSES
363 P. Casal St. Quiapo, Manila
1338 Arlegui St. Quiapo, Manila
QUEZON CITY CAMPUS
938 Aurora Blvd. Cubao, Quezon City
TIP SEASIDE MARITIME TRAINING CENTER

Years of Excellence in Engineering Education

Business Essentials
Automated Office Management System
MEGAPOWER® PORTABLE LCD PROJECTOR ML-168
AS LOW AS P88,000.
PRECISION® TIME RECORDER
AS LOW AS P8,600.
PABX Telephone System
AS LOW AS P7,800.
CALL US FOR FREE DEMO AT:
INFINITE Systems Technology Corp. 892-9073 to 77

How JOSOL Woodworks Saves For You!
☑ NO NEED TO GO THROUGH THE TRAFFIC
Josol Woodworks braves the exhausting traffic and goes through it for you.
☑ LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED
Dare to compare quality and price and save even more!
P 1,800 (Door only)
P 690 (Door only)
NDD Next Day Delivery*
Order any of the NDD mouldings and doors from Josol today and have your woodworks delivered right at your jobsite the next day
Home of the World's Most Celebrated Brands
JOSOL Home Decor Improvement Center Inc.
IDC Bldg., E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Ugong Norte, Q.C.
Tel. No.: 637-5871-74/634-2990/631-1807-08
Josol Rockwell 756-5107 • Josol Southmall 800-3191
Josol Pasig 641-9624 • Josol Bacoor (046) 417-7464
For inquiries, e-mail:customercare@josolhome.com

Oil depot shutdown set

By Jerome Aning and Abigail L. Ho

BY MIDNIGHT tonight, the oil depot's stay in Pandacan would be illegal, unless the courts grant the appeal of Caltex, Shell and Petron to allow them to continue their operations in the oil facility.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza yesterday said he would implement City Ordinance No. 8027, which converts the site of the 33-hectare oil facility from an industrial to a commercial zone, effectively shutting down the oil depot.

The oil firms have sued Atienza to stop him from closing the facility. They also want the courts to declare the ordinance as void, saying that the City Council has failed to prove that the depot is really a public hazard.

Three judges hearing the separate cases filed by the oil firms have asked City Hall to submit its position on the issue yesterday or today so that they could make their ruling soon.

In an interview with reporters, Atienza junked the warnings by the oil firms that the depot's abrupt closure would cause serious fuel price hikes and shortages.

But Energy Secretary Vincent Perez yesterday admitted that the closure of the oil depot could lead to a disruption in supply and an increase in prices of petroleum products.

Perez also said that the government could not give an assurance that supply and prices of petroleum products would stay at its current level.

The Pandacan depot provides 82 percent of Metro Manila's oil demand, and 50 percent of Luzon's oil requirement.

Perez said that the closure of the depot will have a serious detrimental impact on supply.

"There can be no normal supply chain without Pandacan," he said in a news briefing yesterday.

The DOE had decided to retain its Energy Contingency Task Force to tackle a possible crisis resulting from the shutdown of the Pandacan depot. The task force was created to ensure normal fuel supply and price levels during the war against Iraq.

Perez said that the DOE had appealed to the City Council to amend City Ordinance 8027.

But contingency measures have already been put in place by both the government and the oil firms to prevent a worst case scenario, Perez said.

"We're asking oil companies to accelerate supply distribution of petroleum products to various gasoline dealers, to move as much products before the closure," he said.

Members of the Federation of Petroleum Dealers in the Philippines who are based in Luzon said in a statement that product stockouts in the service stations is very likely since the dealers cannot afford the huge additional cost of maintaining four to five days supply of fuel to make up for longer turnaround time.

With the depot's shutdown, oil supply will now be coming from Batangas and Bataan.

Federation president Merceditas Garcia also warned of more price increases of petroleum product and layoff's of workers at the gas station level.

METROBRIEFS

Nabbed in Malabon

A P10,000 reward led to the arrest of cousins Gilbert Gabriel, 39, and Eric Gabriel, 21, two suspected members of a car theft gang during an entrapment operation in Malabon City last Monday, said District Police Intelligence Unit Chief Insp. Sotero Ramos Jr. of the Northern Police District. Police said Emily Arnaiz, 46, sought police assistance regarding the theft of her tricycle. When a P10,000 reward was offered for information on the stolen vehicle, Eric Gabriel approached the victim and offered his help in exchange for the reward. But a background check on Eric showed that he had a criminal record, including theft, and a pending arrest warrant with the Malabon City Metropolitan trial court. An entrapment operation led to the arrest of Eric who led police to the gang's safe house in Plaridel, Bulacan, and the recovery of the stolen tricycle. *Anne Luisa Villarico*

Killed in Tondo

ROOKIE policeman Harold Polistico, 30, of the PNP-National Capital Region's Special Action Unit, was accused of shooting to death former seaman Netor C. Brazil Jr., 45, during a duel in Tondo, Manila, last Monday. Police said the suspect had shot the seaman after the latter destroyed the windows of his mother's house in Tondo. But Polistico surrendered to police after the shooting, according to Detective Edison Bertoldo, of the Wetern Police District-homicide section. Brazil died from two gunshot wounds in the chest at a hospital, police said. *Philip Tubeza*

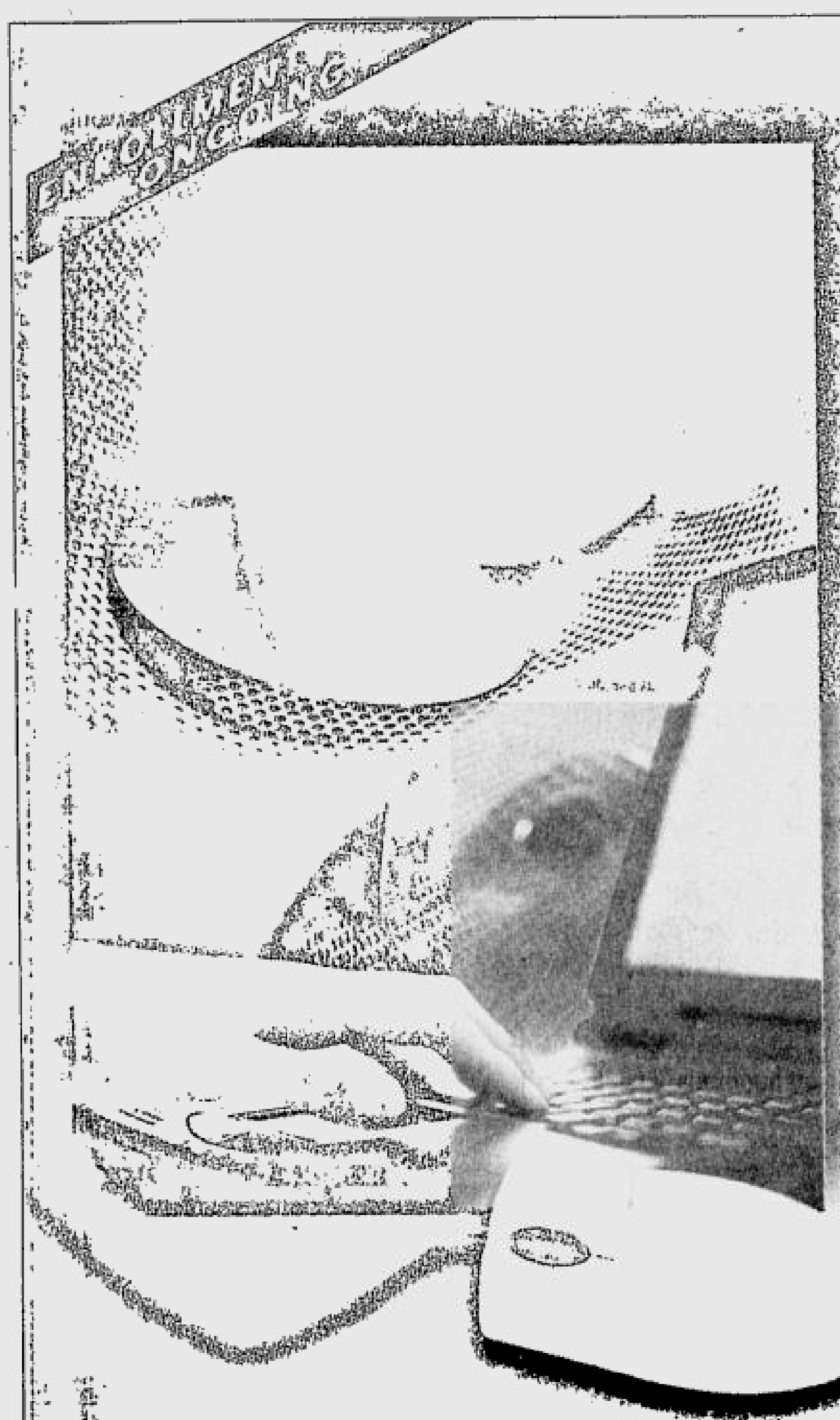
Tagged in San Juan

EASTERN Police District Office director Chief Supt. Rolando Sacramento yesterday identified a certain Jay Canlas as one of the suspects in the recent robbery of the Kamameshi Restaurant in Greenhills, San Juan. The victims had picked out Canlas' picture from the police rogues gallery, police said. Canlas and four other suspects had been arrested and charged for robbing customers of Mann Hahn Restaurant and the Port Area Grille in San Juan last year, police said. But Canlas and the other suspects had been released on bail, police added. *Nelson Forte Flores*

Charged in Cainta

GOVERNMENT lawyers have filed criminal charges against four suspected members of a robbery syndicate operating in Rizal province and eastern Metro Manila. Charged before the Municipal Trial Court of Cainta with illegal possession of firearms were brothers Michael and Romeo Sicat, Jesus Villaran Sr., all of Cainta, and Antonio Reyes, of Binangonan. The Sicat brothers and their companions had been linked to the two slay attempts on former Marikina City Councilor Sonny Parsons.

Nelson Forte Flores



SA UE, HINDI LANG KURSO ANG HI-TECH. BUONG UNIBERSIDAD.

Ang information technology ay para sa lahat, mag-aaral man ng computer sciences o hindi. Kaya naman lahat ng estudyante ng UE ay nakikinabang sa edukasyong pinagaling ng teknolohiya.

- Smart ID system para sa secured entry sa gate, online research, library access at iba pa
- Info Kiosks para sa madaling access ng student records
- Wireless connection para ma-access ang UE facilities sa pamamagitan ng Internet sa loob o labas ng Campus
- Computer laboratories, Internet at multimedia rooms na malaking tulong sa pag-aaral

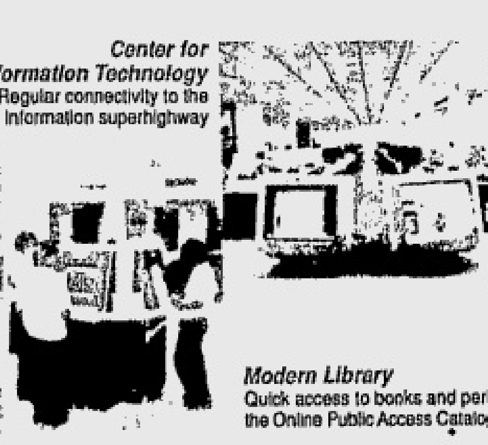
Ilan lang ito sa mga bagay kung paano ka makikinabang sa teknolohiya, kung bakit maipagkakatiwala mo ang iyong kinabukasan sa UE.

Smart ID System
Secure and easy entry at the gates

Info Kiosks
Instant access to student records via touch-screen technology

Advanced Computer Laboratories
Faster and better IT learning

Center for Information Technology
Regular connectivity to the information superhighway



Modern Library
Quick access to books and periodicals via the Online Public Access Catalogue system

Ang Unibersidad ng Iyong Kinabukasan
UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST
PHILIPPINES

UE MANILA

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BSA)
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA)
  Majors: Banking and Finance, Economics, Management, Marketing, Management Accounting
- BSBA (Management) Special Degree Program for Executives Without a College Degree (for entrepreneurs or executives in private enterprises or government, or for officers in the AFP, without a college degree)
- Associate in Business Administration (ABA)

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
- Bachelor of Arts (AB)
  Majors: Communication Arts, Economics, English, Filipino, History, Political Science, Sociology, Legal Management, International Studies
- Bachelor of Science (BS)
  Majors: Biology, Physics, Library and Information Science, Psychology, Statistics, Mathematics
- Associate in Arts (Pre-Dentistry/2 yrs.)

COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
- Doctor of Dental Medicine (DDM)

COLLEGE OF LAW
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES & SYSTEMS
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS)
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT)
- Associate in Computer Technology (ACT)

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
- Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSEd)
  Majors: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, General Science, English, Filipino, History, Math and PEHM (a combination of PE, Health Education and Music), Guidance and Counseling, Home Economics, Computer Education
- Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEEd) with areas of specialization in English, Filipino, Home Economics and Technology, Math, PE, Science and Health, Social Studies, Pre-school or Early Childhood Education, Guidance and Counseling in Elementary Level
- Bachelor of Science in Nutrition & Dietetics (BSND)
- Certificate in Professional Education

INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION
- Computer Technician Course
- Electronics Technician Course
- General Radio Communications Operator Course

GRADUATE SCHOOL
- Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
- Doctor of Education (EdD)
- Master in Business Administration (MBA)
- Master in Construction Management (MCM)
- Master of Arts in Education (MAEd)
- Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
- Master in Public Administration (MPA)
- Master of Science (MS)
- Master in Library and Information Science (MLIS)

UE CALOOCAN

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BSA)
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA)
  Majors: Banking and Finance, Economics, Management, Marketing, Management Accounting

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
- Bachelor of Arts (AB)
  Major: Communication Arts

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Electronics & Communications Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Machine Shop Technician Course (1-year program)

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)
  Majors: Advertising, Interior Design, Painting

MAY MGA SCHOLARSHIPS AT GRANTS NA MAKUKUHA.

PARA SA SCHEDULE NG ENTRANCE EXAMS, LISTAHAN NG MGA KAILANGANG DOKUMENTO O KARAGDAGANG KAALAMAN, TUMAWAG LANG SA

UE MANILA Admissions Office
735-54-71 to 82 local 398 & 399

UE CALOOCAN Admissions Office
361-23-98 or 367-47-87

E-mail Address: admission@ue.edu.ph
Website: www.ue.edu.ph

IPAKITA ITONG AD PARA MAKATANGGAP NG LIBRENG REGALO
Ipakita itong ad kapag nag-enroll sa UE at ikaw ay makakatanggap ng libreng regalo. Ito ay para sa unang 1,000 na mag-e-enroll lamang.*

SIX DIGIT
9 2 3 7 2 1

6/42 Luzon
13 20 23 31 33 41

Vis-Min
1 5 22 29 33 37

SUERTES (In exact order)
7 6 8

METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

ACTRESS Aubrey Miles strikes a pose in one of the pictures in the exhibit that has the MTRCB crying foul.

Aubrey exhibit pulled out

Photos too 'sexy, suggestive,' says MTRCB

By Marinel R. Cruz

THE MOVIE and Television Review and Classification Board yesterday ordered the pullout of a steamy photo exhibit featuring Aubrey Miles and the rest of the cast of Regal Entertainment's movie "Xerex."

Describing the photos shown as "too sexy and suggestive," MTRCB chief Conzoliza Laguardia said she found the photos of Miles, Jake Roxas, Jon Hall and Kalani Ferreria not fit to be displayed in a public place like the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City.

The photos should have been mounted in a more private venue, like an art gallery, Laguardia said.

MILES, with actor Jon Hall, in another controversial exhibit photo.

The photo exhibit, dubbed "Xperience," was set up at Cinemas 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of SM Megamall.

The gallery featured 100 black and white photographs shot by lensman Xander Angeles.

Laguardia said that she found one photo of Miles as suggestive of masturbation, and another where the cast simulated four-way sex.

"In one photo, (Miles) was with three topless males in very seductive poses," the MTRCB chief said.

Laguardia also described as "offending," two topless photos of Miles "holding her breasts."

"It's not an art exhibit, but just an excuse to promote the movie," she said. "Xerex" starts its regular theater run today.

Regal matriarch Lily Monteverde, producer of the movie, said she sees nothing offensive about the pictures.

"The exhibit is a form of art and is made by a notable young artist," Monteverde told the INQUIRER.

"Government agencies like the MTRCB should know better than to take life out of a dying movie industry," Monteverde added.

But she agreed to pull out the exhibit, saying that she thought it was not wise to argue with the MTRCB officials, "since they would pull out the pictures anyway."

Monteverde also added that the reason she agreed to the pullout was to spare SM Megamall from the trouble arising from the showing of the exhibit.

She said she only wanted to help the artist by providing a venue for the exhibit.

Laguardia said that she went to the SM Megamall on Monday night with MTRCB board members Zosimo Alegre and Lucy Orense to personally check the exhibit after receiving three phone calls from concerned citizens who complained about the pictures.

"When we got there, we were appalled to see a toddler looking at the pictures," Laguardia said.

The MTRCB chief then called on to all movie producers to act responsibly.

"I hope that this kind of exhibit would not be mounted again in a place that is very accessible to minors like a mall," she said.

Computer Problem? We come to YOU!
PCHelp HOME & OFFICE COMPUTER SERVICE
Honest and Experienced Technicians
✓ DIAGNOSTICS
✓ UPGRADES
✓ NETWORKING
✓ NEW COMPUTER SET UP
✓ SOFTWARE PROBLEMS/ INSTALLATION
✓ PRINTER/MONITOR REPAIRS
✓ MAINTENANCE
LOW SERVICE RATES JOBS GUARANTEED
for home/office service, call:
727-2222

Petition for FVR to run anew dismissed

By Agnes Donato

CITING lack of merit, a Quezon City judge has dismissed a petition filed by an ally of former President Fidel Ramos asking the court to decide whether or not former presidents could run for office.

In a two-page order, Judge Estrella Estrada agreed with the Office of the Solicitor General that the petition filed by lawyer and former Kalinga Apayao governor Amado Almazan stated "no cause of action."

Almazan had asked the court to give the "true and correct meaning or interpretation of Article VII, Section 4, Second and Third Sentences" of the Constitution.

That provision reads: "The President shall not be eligible for any reelection. No person who has succeeded as President and has served as such for more than four years shall be qualified for election to the same office at any time."

He had said that the court should clarify whether a person who had served as President and who did not run for the same position immediately after the end of his/her term would be qualified to run again after one or two six-year terms.

In her order, Judge Estrada maintained that Almazan's petition lacked merit.

"A perusal of the allegations in the petition will readily show that it lacks the essential requisites to warrant the grant of declaratory relief by this Court," Estrada said.

The judge also noted that Almazan, despite being a taxpayer and registered voter, did not have the authority to file such a petition. She explained that the provision did not apply to Almazan, as he was neither a former President or a Vice President who had succeeded as President.

Bilibid braces for SARS; Manila readies quarantine measure

By Christian Esguerra, Jerome Aning and Leila Salaverria

STILL reeling from the threat of tuberculosis, New Bilibid Prisons officials are now bracing themselves for a possible bout with the equally deadly SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome).

NBP officials have begun implementing stringent measures to keep the deadly flu-like disease from slipping in its compound in Muntinlupa City and infecting around 17,000 inmates there.

The NBP cannot afford to handle another serious disease because it still has at least 275 inmates afflicted with TB, according to Dr. Zoraida Ocampo, medical coordinator of the Bureau of Corrections.

The Department of Health had earlier reported that there were at least 1,000 prisoners with tuberculosis at the NBP.

We're preparing for the possibility of fighting a war on two fronts, Ocampo yesterday told the INQUIRER.

Quarantine in Manila

In Manila, the city council may beat Congress in upgrading quarantine laws in the country to stem the spread of SARS.

City lawmakers are expected to approve today an ordinance prescribing a mandatory 10-day quarantine period for persons suspected to have SARS.

The ordinance, which was proposed by Mayor Lito Atienza and introduced by the majority councilors, revises the outdated quarantine provisions of the city's revised charter.

Any person who refused to undergo quarantine would be jailed six months, or fined P6,000, or suffer both penalties if the courts so decide.

Under the proposal, all suspected SARS victims will be quarantined in an "appropriate and suitable place" at the Ospital ng Maynila in Malate.

The OsMa director is instructed to take into consideration the health and welfare of medical workers and patients in setting up the quarantine area.

The council also tackled another ordinance allowing the mayor to use the city's calamity fund "to institute immediate and serious remedial and emergency measures" to monitor and address problems brought about the SARS threat.

Plea for honesty

Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando yesterday appealed for honesty in the battle to prevent the spread of SARS in the metropolis.

Speaking before health and local government officials during a conference at the MMDA yesterday, Fernando said that it is important to be transparent about the presence of possible SARS victims in a local area so that the necessary measures can be taken to ensure that no other person would be infected.

He cited as example the case of China, where authorities tried to hide the spread of the SARS virus but failed in their attempt after the virus began killing off hundreds of people.

At the same time, some health officials also asked Fernando to help dispel residents' anxieties over SARS, which have caused some people to go into panic-buying.

In recent weeks, they said a mad rush to acquire surgical and protective masks pushed the prices of the items up—more than double their original costs.

Fernando yesterday also suggested that a SARS hotline be set up in Metro Manila so that cases can be reported immediately.

DOH officials also informed local health officials that when transporting SARS patients, it would be better if only health workers would accompany the patient. *With a report from Jamie Alarcon*

Insincere, cops' group says of Lacson ad

By Philip Tubeza

IMMODEST and insincere.

This was how the Manila's Finest Brotherhood Association Inc., described the recent advertisements of former national police chief and now presidential aspirant Panfilo Lacson.

The group debunked the advertisement's claims that Lacson "had eradicated the 'kotong' cops, kidnap-for-ransom, and 'carnapping' gangs during his incumbency as (national police) chief, by sheer guts, dedication to duty, and exceptional leadership qualities."

"The brotherhood takes exception to the sweeping claims of the ads," said the MBFAI in a statement signed by its officers.

"The apprehensions and neutralization of the people involved in these crimes during (Lacson's) incumbency as PNP chief are the results of the joint efforts of different PNP units and other law enforcement agencies," the group said. "Bluntly stated, it is immodest for (Lacson) to claim sole credit for whatever transpired during his incumbency."

The MBFAI is made up mostly of the policemen serving in the Western Police District.

"It is claimed by the ads that these crimes ... are taking place again," the group said. "The conclusion is put across that they are the major source of the country's economic woes."

"(But) the truth of the matter is that these crimes were not totally eradicated during his incumbency as PNP chief."

The group also noted that some of Lacson's subordinates have been charged for the Kuratong Baleleng case and the abduction and murder of PR practitioner Bubby Dacer and his driver.

"The Senator's program, with respect to the PNP, centered exclusively on discipline, militaristic at that ... it should have been multi-dimensional," the MBFAI said.

"The political advertisements are at best, shallow, myopic, and insincere. As it is, it is a political advertisement and nothing more."

Soriquez vows to carry on BF's public works projects

By Blanche Rivera and Leila Salaverria

BAYANI Fernando may have given up the public works portfolio, but the man who replaced him, Florante Soriquez, has vowed to carry on with the projects that Fernando started.

"We both want to get things done," said Soriquez, the acting public works secretary.

Soriquez yesterday assured anxious officials of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority that Fernando's decision to give up his post in the Department of Public Works and Highways would not change the pace of projects.

His first order of business, in fact, was to order an inventory of ongoing projects and check whether they were moving according to schedule.

Soriquez said that he wanted to fast-track the projects during his short stint as DPWH chief.

"I have no plans of derailing MMDA projects," Soriquez said in an interview yesterday. "I do not want to hamper them, unless of course there are problems with the papers."

"I would not want to get in trouble with the Ombudsman," he added, laughing.

Meanwhile, Fernando has received extended powers from the President over projects concerning the National Capital Region.

The MMDA chair yesterday said that the President has given "verbal instructions" that the NCR would be under his "functional supervision."

"This is basically an expansion of my job as RDC (Regional Development Council) chair," he said of his new powers.

Under the concept of functional supervision, Fernando said he would be controlling the deployment of funds for the projects, and would have a hand in the management of all major development ventures in the NCR. All large-scale projects would be subject to his approval.

He said that by controlling the money, he could virtually control the whole project as well.

He said that all NCR regional directors of government agencies are under him, and their projects must have the approval of the RDC before they can be implemented.

As MMDA Chair, Fernando is automatically the head of the RDC, which is already the most powerful agency in Metro Manila.

Fernando yesterday also vowed to keep the harmonious coordination between the DPWH and the MMDA.

Fernando used to head both agencies, until Malacañang announced on Sunday that he has given up the DPWH and would be replaced by Soriquez.

Soriquez, 60, was sworn into office as acting DPWH secretary on Monday.

His appointment has since been opposed by legislators, who cited the graft charges pending against the new DPWH chief over the megadike project in Pampanga.

PRO-GYM EQUIPMENT
#1 FITNESS OUTLET
CLUB EDITION
POPULAR AMONG HEALTH CLUBS, COMPANY GYMS, CONDOMINIUMS, HOTELS, RESORTS & SCHOOLS, SINCE 1979. FACTORY DIRECT PRICES
CALL US FOR PRICES, BROCHURE OR FOR CONSULTATION IN PLANNING YOUR GYM
HOME GYMS
★MULTI-STATION COMPACT GYM
P25,500.
The Complete Machine with 30 uses. CHEST, ARMS, SHOULDERS, BACK, LEGS, THIGHS & BUTTOCKS
NEW EDITION BENCHES
★MEGA BENCH
Flat/Incline Bench
Leg Curl/Extension
Arm Curl (Optional)
P3,900. (w/o Arm Curl)
P4,600. w/ Arm Curl
★POWER PLUS
P7,800.
Flat/Incline Bench, Leg Curl/Extension, Lat Pulldown & Arm Curl
1,000 lbs. Capacity. 2" Sq. Steel
★MULTI BENCH
Power Rack, Flat/Incline Bench, Leg Curl/Extension Lat Pulldown, Arm Curl, Low Pulley & Seated Row.
P15,500.
★DUMBBELL PR.
(25 lbs.) 8 plates
P995.
WORKOUT GUIDE INCLUDED
★BARBELL SET
(50 lbs.) 6 plates
P1,500.
★SIT-UP BOARD
Multi-purpose board for Crunches, Leg Raise & Sit-ups
P1,500.
STATIONARY BIKE
★MAG 282
MAGNETIC BIKE (Smoother, Quieter) Heart Rate Monitor Pulse Sensor
P7,900.
MANUAL TREADMILL
★FLIP TRAXX
Magnetic Model w/ Monitor Heart Rate, Dist etc
P7,950.
TO ORDER, CALL:
742-18-08
741-89-74
743-13-40
FAX: 742-61-89
progym@itextron.com
SEPTEM, INC.
88 HALCON ST. QUEZON CITY
FACTORY OUTLET
PLS. ADD P200. FOR DELIVERY & HANDLING

the hunt is on!

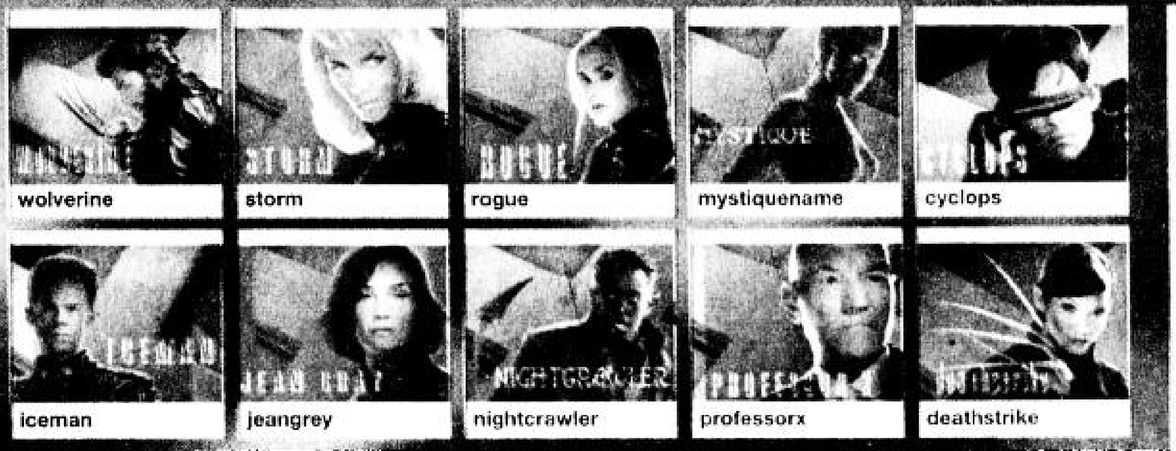
X-MEN 2
THE EVOLUTION BEGINS

myGlobe **marvel**mania

Win Nokia phones, rare X-Men comic books, and toys!

Capture mutants with your Globe and get exciting prizes!

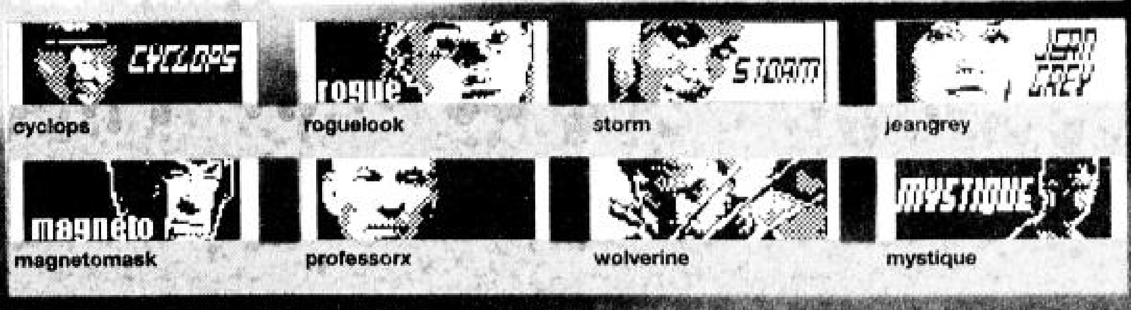
COLORED WALLPAPER


wolverine
storm
rogue
mystiquename
cyclops
iceman
jeangrey
nightcrawler
professorx
deathstrike

ICONS

cyclops
profx
iceman
rogue
jeanname
magneto
storm
wolviename
mystiquename
ncrawlername

TEXT CARDS


cyclops
roguelook
storm
jeangrey
magnetomask
professorx
wolverine
mystique

Text X2 to 2211.

Every time you get an X-Men icon or text card, you will get a text message that will say one of the following:

a) that you just received one of the letters from the word "XMEN2". Win a Nokia 7250, 3650, 7650, 6100, or 3530 if you complete that word. Keep downloading to get all the letters.

b) that you just won an X-Men collectible! Go to the myGlobe X2 Exhibit at Ayala Cinemas and choose the X-Men toy or comic book you want!

X-Men colored wallpapers are not included in the promo.

TO DOWNLOAD:

Send to 2348:
Icons: type in L (keyword).
Ex: L magneto
Text Cards: type in TC (keyword).
Ex: TC jeangrey

Colored wallpaper: go to the myGlobe WAP site. Under What's New, click on X-Men Wallpaper.

ICON & TEXT CARD:
Only P15 per download.

COLORED WALLPAPER:
Only P20 per download.

Text PHONES to 2375 for a list of compatible phones. Download is free of charge.

Experience X2 best at the Ayala Cinemas

X2 The evolution continues at the myGlobe X2 Exhibits. Over 500 unique X-Men prizes on display, rare comic books, toys and graphic novels! Only at the Ayala Cinemas: Greenbelt 1, Greenbelt 3, Glorietta 4 and the Alabang Town Center. Exhibit starts April 25, 2003.

Catch it in cinemas starting April 30.

www.xmen2-themovie.com

20th Century Fox MARVEL

TM & © 2003 MARVEL. © 2003 FOX.

just mobile

AYALA CINEMAS

making great things possible

Globe HANDYPHONE

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1534 Series of 2003

USED CAR LOANS!
Models 1991 and UP
9% UP TO JUNE 30, 2003
Also cash loans w/o taking your car!
Tels: 373-9913
372-6526
413-5777
372-6696
373-3901 loc 8220 /8302/8303
AMA BANK
AMA Rural Bank of Mandaluyong, Inc.
The Largest Used-Car Loan Bank in the Country Today
MEMBER PDIC. Deposits insured up to ₱100,000.00 per Depositor.

Shabu use costs Torion ₱2.2M

GAMES TODAY *(Makati Coliseum)*
5:00 p.m.—Talk N Text vs Alaska
7:30 p.m.—Coca-Cola vs Shell

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE SEASON-LONG ban on Jimwell Torion also means the Batang Red Bull star cannot be present in any PBA game for the rest of the year.

But other than the scorn imposed by the PBA on the Cebuano cage sensation, who tested positive for shabu use, Torion will be paying a stiff price for the offense: P2.25 million to be exact.

This will be the total cost of his salary for the rest of the season.

Red Bull manager Tony Chua yesterday said they have no choice but withhold Torion's P250,000 a month salary until such time the PBA decides to exonerate him, which would be after December at the earliest.

A contrite Torion appeared yesterday at the PSA Forum at the Holiday Inn to ask for forgiveness from basketball fans.

He also vowed to help educate people about the dangers of using drugs.

SEN. Loren Legarda yesterday challenged the PBA to quickly adopt tougher measures in order to "totally discourage" drug use in the league. "We must stress that drug use implies the criminal possession of an illicit substance," said Legarda, an official of the Citizens' Drug-Watch Foundation Inc.

Torion, 28, was found to have used shabu after a random drug testing conducted by the PBA during their game last Palm Sunday.

He readily admitted that he used the banned substance during a wild party in Cebu weeks before.

"I'm willing to accept all responsibility for whatever punishment they will impose on me," he said.

He said he was appealing for understanding from the public.

The hyper-active player said the incident made him ponder his future and that of his wife and four kids, ages 1 ½ to eight years old.

Torion, who narrowly escaped death after figuring in a car mishap just before the 2000 PBA season began, said he is still paying for the house and lot he acquired in Antipolo last year.

"That's my biggest problem," said Torion, referring to P84,000 monthly amortization for the property. "And I still have to find ways to support my kids' schooling."

Batang Red Bull management said it had to do what was proper.

"He's an integral part of the team and a very obedient player but we want to teach

SHABU/ A28

TORION

WHAT'S INSIDE

Davadilla strikes again in Tour /A26

76ers, Kings take 3-1 leads /A28

Bare Eye: Star in the time of SARS /A29

Welcoat edges John-O, 58-54

GAMES TOMORROW *(Makati Coliseum)*
2 p.m.—Blu Star vs John-O; 4 p.m. - Welcoat vs ICTSI; 6 p.m.—Viva Mineral Water vs RP Team

WELCOAT Paints, riding on the dominating show of Jean Marc Pingris, silenced John-O in the final four minutes to tally a 58-54 victory yesterday and stay on track for an automatic semifinals slot in the Sunkist-PBL 2003 Unity Cup at the Pasig Sports Center.

Though nursing a slight flu, the 6-foot-6 Pingris notched a double-double with 19 points and a conference-high 20 rebounds, leading the Paint Masters to their fourth win in nine starts.

John-O fell to 6-3, but is almost sure of joining idle Hapee Toothpaste (7-2) into the prefinals.

Roy Luarca

onstage 2nyt

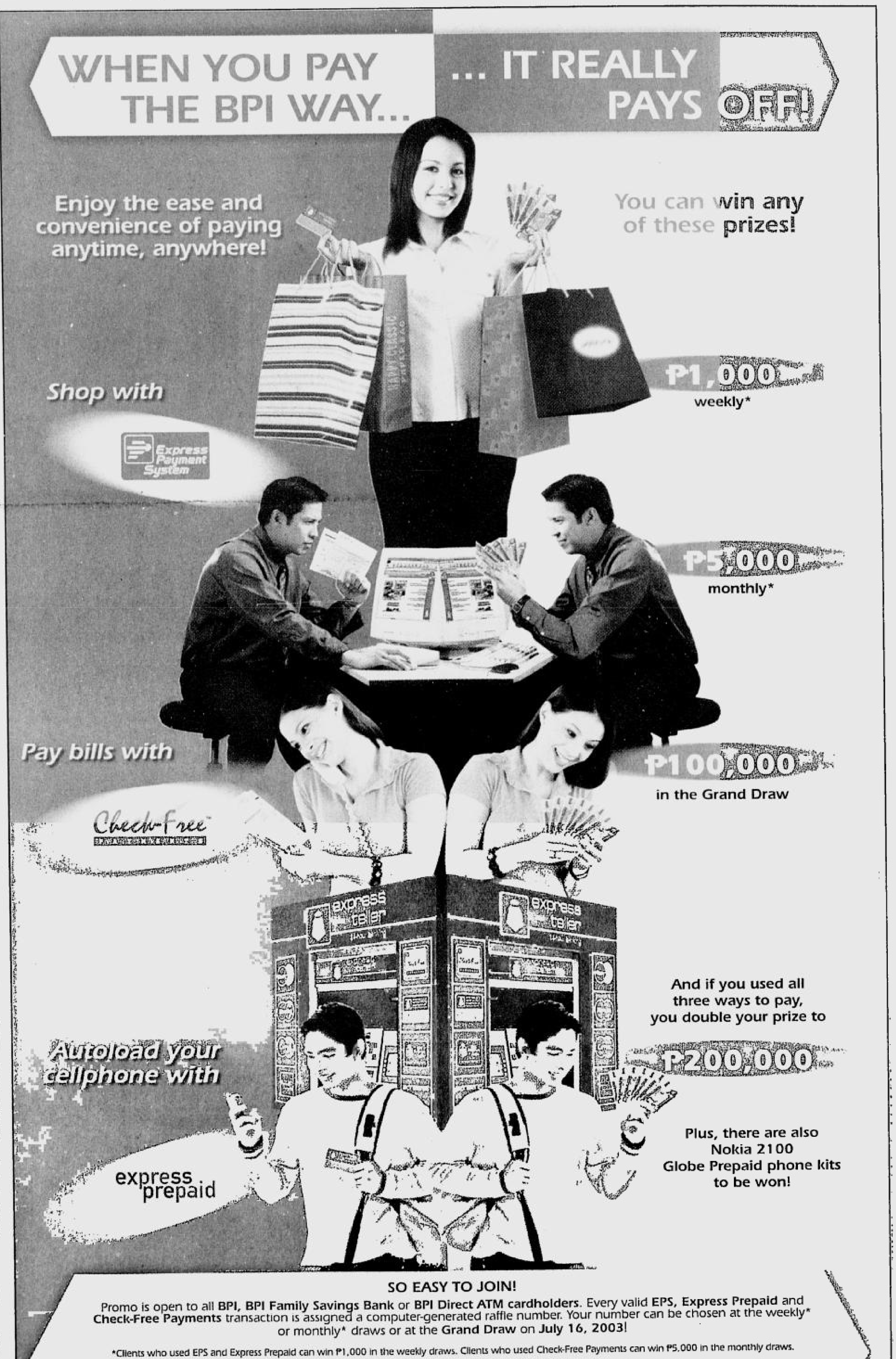
Cowboy Grill

LAS PIÑAS ☎ 801.7644	ICE KENDI SERSIDE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MABINI ☎ 525.1474	CRO MAGNON AFTER 8/MIXED UP	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MALATE ☎ 521.8143	FAT 16 POWER SURGE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
NOVALICHES ☎ 936.9757	HIMIG SAINTS	NO ENTRANCE FEE
BIÑAN ☎ (049)511.7268	ZEST STREETLIFE	NO ENTRANCE FEE

TIA MARIA'S

JUPITER ☎ 890.4735	SOUTH EDGE MAJOR 7	NO ENTRANCE FEE
REMEDIOS ☎ 522.0429	FU FLAVA VERSE 2	MAY 16-AEGIS & WIIE GUYS
TOMAS MORATO ☎ 371.1473	3RD MOVEMENT	NO ENTRANCE FEE

APR.30 WEDNESDAY


WHEN YOU PAY THE BPI WAY... ... IT REALLY PAYS OFF!
Enjoy the ease and convenience of paying anytime, anywhere!
You can win any of these prizes!
Shop with
Express Payment System
₱1,000 weekly*
₱5,000 monthly*
Pay bills with
Check-Free
₱100,000 in the Grand Draw
express teller
Autoload your cellphone with
express prepaid
And if you used all three ways to pay, you double your prize to
₱200,000
Plus, there are also Nokia 2100 Globe Prepaid phone kits to be won!

SO EASY TO JOIN!
Promo is open to all **BPI, BPI Family Savings Bank** or **BPI Direct ATM cardholders**. Every valid **EPS, Express Prepaid** and **Check-Free Payments** transaction is assigned a computer-generated raffle number. Your number can be chosen at the weekly* or monthly* draws or at the **Grand Draw** on **July 16, 2003**!

*Clients who used EPS and Express Prepaid can win ₱1,000 in the weekly draws. Clients who used Check-Free Payments can win ₱5,000 in the monthly draws.

Promo runs from March 10 - July 13, 2003.
See posters and flyers for details.

Express Teller... Express Phone... Express Online
Banking Anytime, Anywhere @ Your Convenience

Call 89-100 (dial "0" to speak to a phonebanker)
or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

making great things possible
Globe

Per DTI NCR Permit No 0503 Series of 2003

TOUR PILIPINAS SHAKE-UP

Davadilla wins again; Ramos grabs lead

By June Navarro

LUCENA CITY (via PLDT)—Warren Davadilla, the last champion of the previous Tour before it folded up in 1998, struck anew by winning the fourth stage yesterday that saw a shake-up in the overall race of the Tour Pilipinas 2003 here.

Duplicating his triumph in the third stage, Davadilla finished the 207-kilometer stage in five hours, three minutes and 48 seconds as he jumped to 3rd from 16th place overall.

Merculio Ramos became the new overall leader after checking in eighth and posting an accumulated time of 14 hours, 5 minutes and 46 seconds .

"This is what I've been waiting for. When I saw Arnel (Quirimit) and Santy (Barnachea) looking after each other, I made my move," said Ramos, the pride of Batang-bata, Tarlac City.

"I just maintained my pace even in the mountains but I didn't expect to break away that easy from the lead pack," said Davadilla, an auto mechanic graduate from Malabon, in Tagalog after finishing the race two minutes and 25 seconds ahead of Intel teammate Paulo Manapol.

Manapol and Frederick Feliciano of the Drugbusters crossed the finish line second and third, respectively, with an identical time of five hours, six minutes and 13 seconds.

Davadilla broke loose while ascending the slopes of Atimonan, known as the "Tatlong Eme," leaving behind a slew of riders that included Manapol, Feliciano, Carlo Jazul, Lito Atilano, Enrique Domingo and Arnold Marcelo.

The exploits of Davadilla and Manapol catapulted Intel from eighth to the top of the team standings, thereby dislodging early leaders Tanduay Distillers and Bowling Gold in the race for the P1-million champion team's pot.

Tanduay's Arnel Quirimit, the overall leader prior to the race, relinquished the yellow jersey to Ramos of Samsung after puncturing his front tire in the town of Talisay, just two kilometers from the start.

"I waited for almost 20 minutes before our team mechanic changed the tire. When I got back in the race, the lead pack was already gone,"said Quirimit, who fell to sixth overall, five minutes and 13 seconds behind Ramos, after winding up 21st in today's race.

"But it's okay. I'm not really bothered about losing the yellow jersey. I'm still in contention anyway," added the Army man from Pozzorubio, Pangasinan.

DAVADILLA pedals his way through "Bitukang Manok" in Atimonan, Quezon en route to solo victory in the 4th lap.

VAL HANDUMON

Placido Valdez of Drugbusters moved up from fourth overall to second while Barnachea, who held on to second place in the last two laps, plummeted to 15th.

The Pagcor Sports duo of Lloyd Reynante and Rhyan Taguilig also climbed to fourth and fifth after landing eighth and ninth in the third stage.

Pagcor Sports remained at fourth in the team standings while Patrol 117 and Ecosavers improved to second and third, respectively.

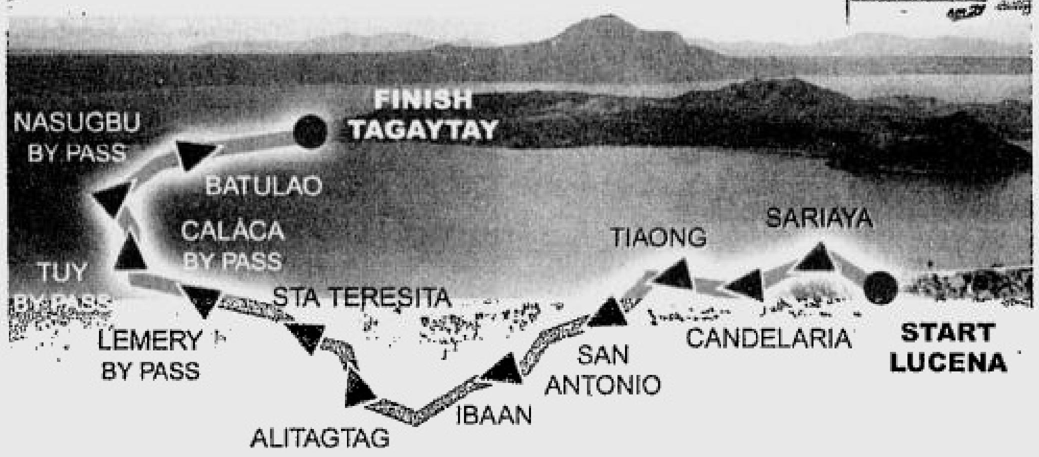
Tanduay and Bowling Gold plummeted to seventh and eighth after leading the Tour presented by Air 21 and sponsored by Philtranco, Look-Vittoria, Longines, Accel, Lipovitan, Selle Italia, FedEx and Mail & More, for three days.

Gilbeys Island Punch, Drugbusters, Postmen and PLDT-NDD continue to struggle as they occupy the lower rung of the standings.

Ramos will don the yellow jersey today from this city up to Tagaytay City, approximately 175 kilometers of well-paved roads with a couple of uphill turns near the finish.

FIFTH STAGE: MASSED START

TOUR PILIPINAS



Overall Standings

RANK	RIDER		TIME
1	MERCULIO	RAMOS	14h05'46.630
2	PLACIDO	VALDEZ	00h01'39.110
3	WARREN	DAVADILLA	00h03'31.319
4	LLOYD	REYNANTE	00h05'06.890
5	RHYAN	TANGUILIG	same
6	ARNEL	QUIRIMIT	00h05'13.84
7	EUSEBIO	QUIÑONES	00h05'58.990
8	BERNARD	LUZON	00h06'13.870
9	ENRIQUE	DOMINGO	00h07'33.620
10	FERNANDO	ALAGANO	00h09'00.340
11	BENITO	LOPEZ	00h09'27.261
12	RONALD	GORRANTES	00h10'55.25
13	RENATO	DOLOSA	00h10'58.57
14	FREDERICK	FELICIANO	00h12'34.822
15	SANTI	BARNACHEA	00h13'01.820
16	CARLO	JAZUL	00h13'05.380
17	ARNOLD	MARCELO	00h14'59.672
18	JOSEPH	MILLANES	00h15'21.272
19	LITO	ATILANO	00h16'35.699
20	PATERNO	CURTAN	00h17'52.380
21	CARLO	GUIEB	00h18'20.341
22	REINHARD	GORANTES	00h18'27.463
23	SHERWIN	DIAMSAY	00h18'49.721
24	ARNEL	ESPINO	00h19'21.932
25	ERICSON	OBOSA	00h19'44.691
26	PAULO	MANAPOL	00h20'15.140
27	ROLANDO	PAGNANAWON	00h20'40.773
28	JOEL	CALDERON	00h21'51.733
29	ALFIE	CATALAN	00h22'39.311
30	DANNY	GANIGAN	00h24'13.224
31	MANUEL	MENDOZA	00h24'17.124
32	ALBERT	PRIMERO	same
33	REYNALDO	NAVARRO	00h24'37.751
34	FELIX	CELESTE	00h24'53.893
35	GERRY	AMAR	00h25'13.504
36	MICHAEL	REYES	00h25'45.162
37	ARTHUR	BUCAY	00h25'49.011
38	RUEL	CASALJAY	00h27'28.32
39	WILFREDO	CALOSA	00h29'31.180
40	DIONISIO	MENDOZA	00h29'48.933
41	NILO	ESTAYO	00h32'39.74
42	DIONISIO	POSILERO	00h32'59.343
43	DOMINADOR	JACOB	00h33'08.411
44	RODELIO	VALDEZ	same
45	JOEL	GUILLEN	00h34'31.660
46	OSCAR	FRONDA	00h35'23.200
47	AVELINO	BAYUGA	00h38'24.581
48	RAZON	GALDONEZ	00h38'31.400
49	ART	DELA CRUZ	00h39'13.841
50	MICHAEL	GONOWON	00h39'52.270

4TH LAP STANDINGS

1	WARREN	DAVADILLA	05h03'48.140
2	PAULO	MANAPOL	00h02'25.22
3	FREDERICK	FELICIANO	same
4	BERNARD	LUZON	00h02'48.66
5	ENRIQUE	DOMINGO	same
6	LITO	ATILANO	00h03'10.44
7	PLACIDO	VALDEZ	same
8	MERCULIO	RAMOS	same
9	RENATO	DOLOSA	00h04'04.4
10	CARLO	JAZUL	same
11	FERNANDO	ALAGANO	same
12	RHYAN	TANGUILIG	00h04'10.54
13	LLOYD	REYNANTE	same
14	ARNOLD	MARCELO	same
15	JOSEPH	MILLANES	same

TEAM STANDINGS

PLACE	TEAM	TIME	DEFICIT
1	INTEL	57h07'23.31	
2	PAGCOR	57h15'29.99	00h08'06.67
3	PATROL 117	57h19'00.34	00h11'37.03
4	TANDUAY DISTILLERS	57h20'45.88	00h13'22.57
5	ECO SAVERS	57h23'19.87	00h15'56.56
6	SAMSUNG	57h32'50.53	00h25'27.21
7	POSTMEN	57h34'41.80	00h27'18.49
8	VAT RIDERS	57h38'09.13	00h30'45.81
9	BOWLING GOLD	57h47'50.32	00h40'27.01
10	DRUG BUSTERS	57h50'39.81	00h43'16.50
11	GILBEYS ISLAND PUNCH	58h01'55.46	00h54'32.14
12	PLDT-NDD	58h39'28.35	01h32'05.04

35 PAYLOADERS
TCM 870
30 BULLDOZERS
6 WAY BLADE
KOMATSU D21A-6
20 GRADERS
KOMATSU GD300
30 TRACTOR HEADS
ISUZU 10W TRACTOR HEAD
40 MIXER TRUCKS
FUSO 10W MIXER TRUCK
ISUZU FTR SWEEPER TRUCK
25 SELF LOADERS
ISUZU FRR SELF LOADER W/CRANE
FUSO REF VAN
FUSO POWER GATE
HITACHI EX200 LC SUPER LONG ARM
50 EXCAVATORS

United Auctioneers, Inc.

TRUCKS VANS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT

PUBLIC AUCTION

MAY 17, 18 & 19, 2003

Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!

Catch The Best At SUBIC BAY PHILIPPINES

INSPECTION DATES: MAY 10 to 16, 2003

REGISTRATION DATES: MAY 10 to 19, 2003

SUBIC BLDG. 1455 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, PHILIPPINES TEL NOS: [047] 252-1129 • 252-1155 to 58 FAX NO: [047] 252-5569

MANILA TEL NOS: [02] 9297868 • 9205501 • 426-3908 • 453-7470 / 74

FAX NO: [02] 929-0260 E-MAIL: info@uauctioneers.com WEBSITE: www.uauctioneers.com

Absolutely No Middleman...Enjoy up to 40% Direct Savings!

Direct Link
CAR INSURANCE

No Middleman, No Commissions to pay!
Direct ang usapan kaya may up to 40% savings ka.

Isang tawag lang...Direct na lahat at wala nang ibang binabayaran pa!
Laking Ginhawa talaga!

Simpleng Kausap!

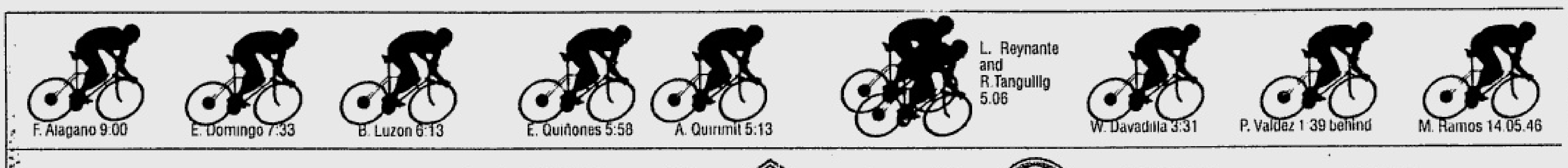
Enjoy HULUGAN! Up to 6 months to pay!

Call Now!

direct link INSURANCE

MAKATI OFFICE 88-725-88
CEBU OFFICE 234-0808

E-mail: dirlink@mozcom.com or call
Toll-Free 1800-1888-LINK (5465)
anywhere in the Philippines



TOUR PILIPINAS

Daily Individual Time Update

Wolen Juan wraps it up with a 64

By Jong Arcano

TWO WEEKS ago, Wolen Juan Superal missed setting a record of three consecutive sub-par rounds by a mere stroke after a bogey on the last hole.

This week, Superal is on his way to several scoring marks with his mind-boggling eight-under-par 64 effort yesterday believed to be one of the lowest ever set by a player in his age-group as he got victory No. 5 in the Samsung Jungolf Tour in the bag with still one round to go.

That 64 from the special tees was so far the lowest score in the hot summer, a stroke better than the 65 the 10-year-old Superal himself set in the first round at the Player course of the Orchard Golf and Country Club in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Wolen's second round scorecard showed an eagle on the fourth, eight birdies against only two bogeys–a round that sent him skyrocketing ahead by 24 over James Christian Ricohermoso in Class D, a division for players 9-10 years old. His 15-under aggregate of 129 should also make it to the books as the best ever.

The Superals are in for a double celebration after Wolen's elder sister Crystal Faith Superal put herself on the brink of victory with a 16-stroke lead over Cyna Marie Rodriguez in girls Class C. Crystal, rebounding from her disqualification in the Junior World qualifier last week, scored a 77 for 162.

Pagcor should lead war against SARS

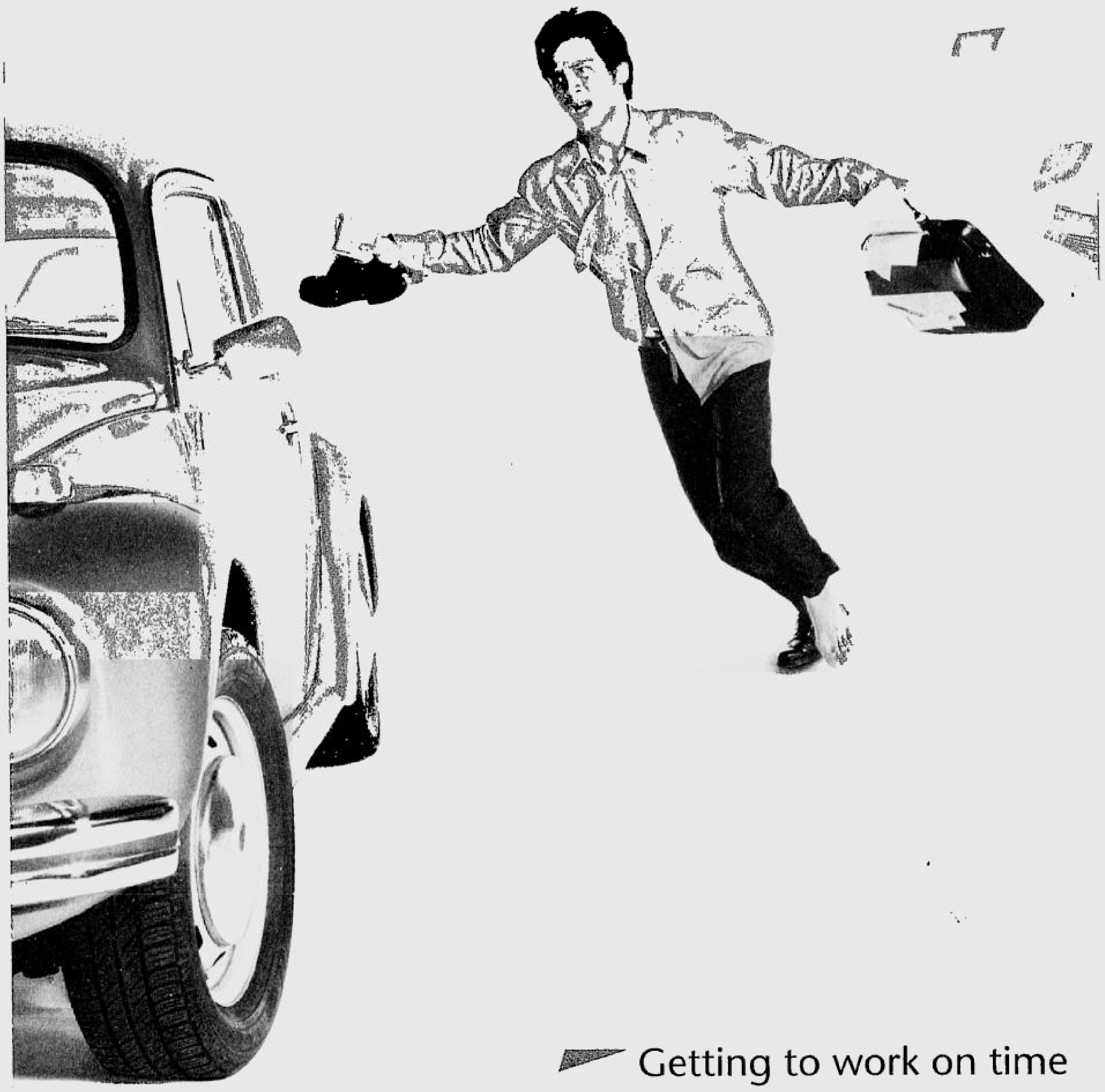
CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

ONE government agency that could very well play an important role in the all-out war against the dreaded SARS is the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., which runs the profitable casino operations across the country. Being awash with cash, Pagcor should lead the campaign to contain the flu-like disease which has–as of yesterday–killed 321 people and infected more than 28 countries.

Aside from embarking on a massive information campaign and providing financial assistance to various agencies concerned, Pagcor should also conduct the health screening of casino patrons and provide them with protective masks because several casino players are foreigners, including nationals from China, the country most affected by the killer disease. While it could be costly to provide casino players with these masks, it is still one solution to stop the spread of SARS and prevent further loss of lives. No amount of money is too much to forestall the outbreak of this contagious and deadly disease.

Already, beer giant San Miguel Corp. of boss Danding Cojuangco has launched a comprehensive anti-SARS campaign by issuing surgical masks to its employees and guests. It has also set up quarters for the mandatory 10-day quarantine for people coming from SARS-affected countries. The same measures are being implemented by its sister companies, Purefoods, Coca-Cola and Ginebra. On the other hand, Donald Dee, corporate secretary of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said PCCI members have also embarked on massive anti-SARS campaign for the protection of their employees and visitors.



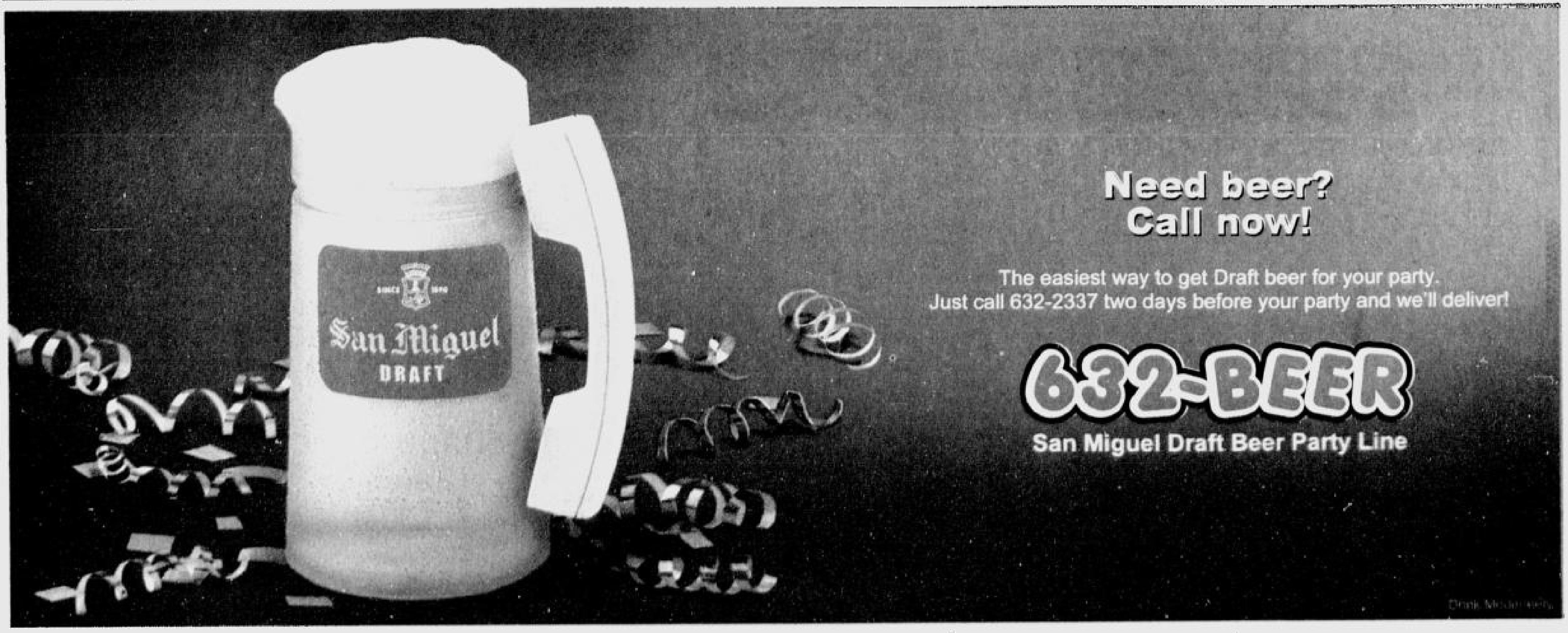
What Drives You

Getting to work on time

Who hasn't overslept? But it won't change that 8 a.m. meeting. That's why Vortex High Performance Fuel gives you extra pick up when you need to put your foot down.

Vortex

What Drives You CALTEX



Need beer?
Call now!

The easiest way to get Draft beer for your party.
Just call 632-2337 two days before your party and we'll deliver!

632-BEER
San Miguel Draft Beer Party Line

Drink Moderately

AT A GLANCE

NBA PLAYOFFS 2003

EASTERN CONFERENCE

(1) Detroit vs. (8) Orlando
Magic 3, Pistons 1
Game 1: Orlando 99, Detroit 94
Game 2: Detroit 89, Orlando 77
Game 3: Orlando 89, Detroit 80
Game 4 : Orlando 100, Detroit 92
Game 5 at Detroit (May 1)

(2) New Jersey vs (7) Milwaukee
Nets 2, Bucks 2
Game 1: New Jersey 109, Milwaukee 96
Game 2: Milwaukee 88, New Jersey 85
Game 3: New Jersey 103, Milwaukee 101
Game 4 Milwaukee 119, New Jersey 114
Game 5 at New Jersey (April 30)

(3) Indiana vs (6) Boston
Pacers 1, Celtics 3
Game 1: Boston 103, Indiana 100
Game 2: Indiana 89, Boston 77
Game 3: Boston 101, Indiana 83
Game 4: Boston 102, Indiana 92
Game 5 at Indiana (April 30)

(4) Philadelphia vs (5) N. Orleans
Sixers 3, Hornets 1,
Game 1: Philadelphia 98, New Orleans 90
Game 2: Philadelphia 90, New Orleans 85
Game 3: New Orleans 99, Philadelphia 85
Game 4: Philadelphia 96, New Orleans 87
Game 5 at Philadelphia (May 1)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Spurs 2, Suns 2
Game 1 Phoenix 96, San Antonio 95 (OT)
Game 2: San Antonio 84, Phoenix 76
Game 3: San Antonio 99, Phoenix 86
Game 4: Phoenix 86, San Antonio 84
Game 5 at San Antonio (April 30)

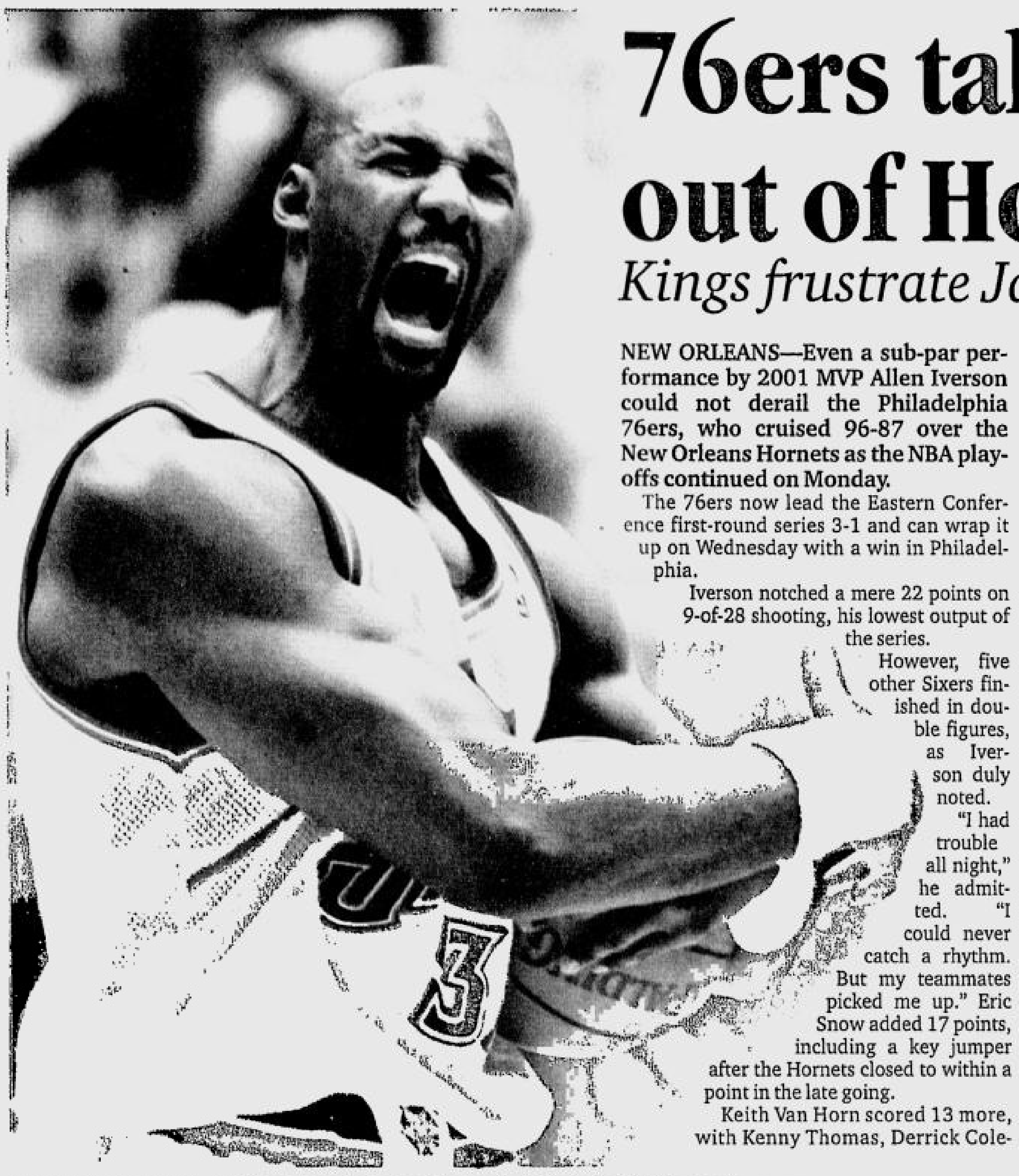
(2) Sacramento vs (7) Utah
Kings 3, Jazz 1
Game 1: Sacramento 96, Utah 90
Game 2: Sacramento 108, Utah 95
Game 3 Utah 107, Sacramento 104
Game 4: Sacramento 99, Utah 82
Game 5 at Sacramento (May 1)

(3) Dallas vs (6) Portland
Mavs 3, Blazers 1
Game 1: Dallas 96, Portland 86
Game 2: Dallas 103, Portland 99
Game 3: Dallas 115, Portland 103
Game 4: Portland 98, Dallas 79
Game 5 at Dallas (May 1)

(4) Minnesota vs. (5) LA Lakers
Wolves 2, Lakers 2
Game 1: LA Lakers 117, Minnesota 98
Game 2: Minnesota 119, LA Lakers 91
Game 3: Minnesota 114, LA Lakers 110
Game 4: LA Lakers 102, Minnesota 97
Game 5 at LA (April 30)

76ers take sting out of Hornets

Kings frustrate Jazz for 3-1 lead



MALONE shows his frustration after a foul was called against him in the fourth quarter. REUTERS

NEW ORLEANS—Even a sub-par performance by 2001 MVP Allen Iverson could not derail the Philadelphia 76ers, who cruised 96-87 over the New Orleans Hornets as the NBA playoffs continued on Monday.

The 76ers now lead the Eastern Conference first-round series 3-1 and can wrap it up on Wednesday with a win in Philadelphia.

Iverson notched a mere 22 points on 9-of-28 shooting, his lowest output of the series.

However, five other Sixers finished in double figures, as Iverson duly noted.

"I had trouble all night," he admitted. "I could never catch a rhythm. But my teammates picked me up." Eric Snow added 17 points, including a key jumper after the Hornets closed to within a point in the late going.

Keith Van Horn scored 13 more, with Kenny Thomas, Derrick Coleman and Aaron McKie all getting 11 apiece.

Baron Davis had 34 points in a losing cause.

THE NEW Jersey Nets and Milwaukee Bucks clash today in the pivotal Game Five of their first round NBA Playoffs series live at 7 a.m. on Solar Sports. Replay is at 8 p.m. Their best-of-seven series is tied at 2-2.

In Salt Lake City, a 36-18 third quarter proved decisive as the Sacramento Kings rallied to defeat the Utah Jazz 99-82 in Western Conference action.

The Kings now hold a 3-1 lead in the first-round series, with Game Five in Sacramento on Wednesday.

Sacramento fell eight points behind in the opening quarter but closed the gap to four by halftime.

"We just got down early," Sacramento's Chris Webber said after finishing with 26 points and 11 rebounds.

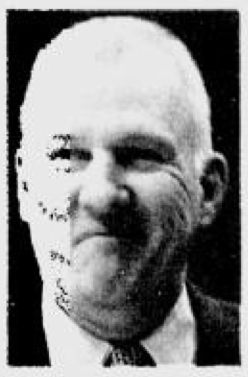
"But we stuck with it. You have to stay the course." Peja Stojakovic went one better with 27 points, 15 of them in the third quarter.

"We were aggressive in the second half," Stojakovic said.

Veteran Karl Malone paced the Jazz with 24 points, with Matt Harpring adding 18.

Malone was given a brief standing ovation when he left late in the game, possibly his last in Salt Lake. *Reuters*

Popovich named NBA coach of the year



POPOVICH

SAN ANTONIO—Gregg Popovich won the NBA Coach of the Year award on Monday for leading the San Antonio Spurs to the league's best record.

Popovich, the first Spurs coach to win the award, received 40 out of a possible 121 first-place votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Golden State Warriors coach Eric Musselman was second with 26 first-place votes, and Utah Jazz coach Jerry Sloan was third (18).

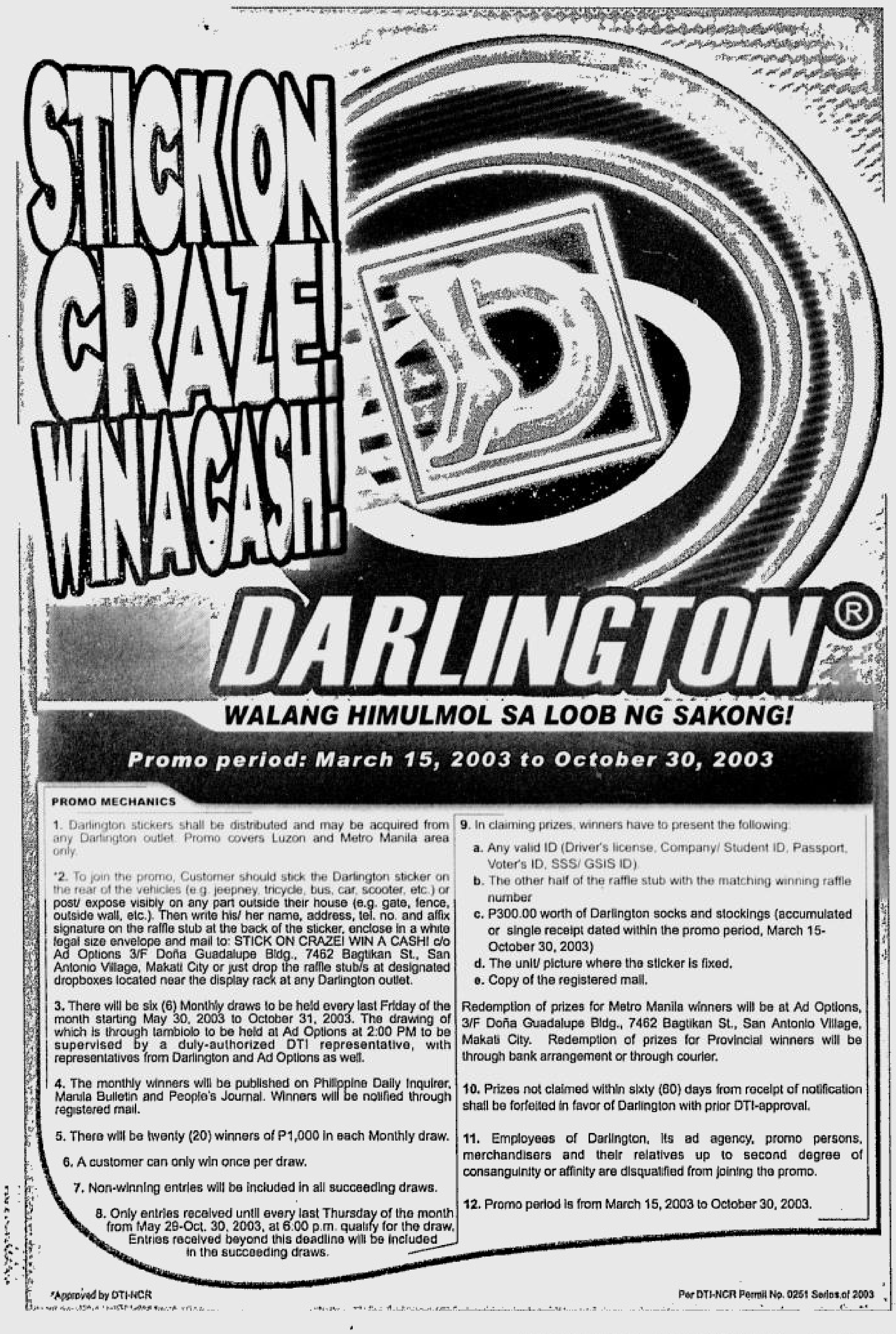
Popovich, San Antonio's coach since December 1996, led the Spurs to their third straight Midwest Division title and a 60-22 record.

San Antonio once trailed Dallas by 8 1/2 games in the division, but the Spurs went 41-9, beginning Jan. 1, to pass the Mavericks in the final week of the season.

Popovich has a regular-season record of 339-185, giving him the most wins of any San Antonio coach, and he has a .647 winning percentage over seven seasons.

He is 35-26 in the playoffs. San Antonio is tied with Phoenix in the opening-round, best-of-seven series, with Game 5 on Tuesday night in San Antonio.

The Spurs have won at least 50 games in five of the past six seasons. In the strike-shortened 1998-99 season, San Antonio was 39-13 and went on to win its first NBA championship. *AP*



STICK ON CRAZE! WIN A CASH!
DARLINGTON®

WALANG HIMULMOL SA LOOB NG SAKONG!

Promo period: March 15, 2003 to October 30, 2003

PROMO MECHANICS

1. Darlington stickers shall be distributed and may be acquired from any Darlington outlet. Promo covers Luzon and Metro Manila area only.

*2. To join the promo, Customer should stick the Darlington sticker on the rear of the vehicles (e.g. jeepney, tricycle, bus, car, scooter, etc.) or post/ expose visibly on any part outside their house (e.g. gate, fence, outside wall, etc.). Then write his/ her name, address, tel. no. and affix signature on the raffle stub at the back of the sticker, enclose in a white legal size envelope and mail to: STICK ON CRAZE! WIN A CASH! c/o Ad Options 3/F Doña Guadalupe Bldg., 7462 Bagtikan St., San Antonio Village, Makati City or just drop the raffle stub/s at designated dropboxes located near the display rack at any Darlington outlet.

3. There will be six (6) Monthly draws to be held every last Friday of the month starting May 30, 2003 to October 31, 2003. The drawing of which is through tambiolo to be held at Ad Options at 2:00 PM to be supervised by a duly-authorized DTI representative, with representatives from Darlington and Ad Options as well.

4. The monthly winners will be published on Philippine Daily Inquirer, Manila Bulletin and People's Journal. Winners will be notified through registered mail.

5. There will be twenty (20) winners of P1,000 in each Monthly draw.

6. A customer can only win once per draw.

7. Non-winning entries will be included in all succeeding draws.

8. Only entries received until every last Thursday of the month from May 29-Oct. 30, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. qualify for the draw. Entries received beyond this deadline will be included in the succeeding draws.

9. In claiming prizes, winners have to present the following:
   a. Any valid ID (Driver's license, Company/ Student ID, Passport, Voter's ID, SSS/ GSIS ID).
   b. The other half of the raffle stub with the matching winning raffle number
   c. P300.00 worth of Darlington socks and stockings (accumulated or single receipt dated within the promo period, March 15-October 30, 2003)
   d. The unit/ picture where the sticker is fixed.
   e. Copy of the registered mail.

Redemption of prizes for Metro Manila winners will be at Ad Options, 3/F Doña Guadalupe Bldg., 7462 Bagtikan St., San Antonio Village, Makati City. Redemption of prizes for Provincial winners will be through bank arrangement or through courier.

10. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification shall be forfeited in favor of Darlington with prior DTI-approval.

11. Employees of Darlington, its ad agency, promo persons, merchandisers and their relatives up to second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

12. Promo period is from March 15, 2003 to October 30, 2003.

*Approved by DTI-NCR

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0251 Series of 2003

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO PARK BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Aprey Special 2. Madam Aida
Race 2--1. Vhingget 2. Heavy Metal 3. Ray Moon
Race 3--1. Favorite Girl 2. Praetorian
Race 4--1. Hingis 2.Portal Dancer 3. Voltes May
Race 5--1. Absolute Charmer/Priceless Gem 2. Cryptorose
Race 6--1. Imperial Act 2. Miss Monroe 3. Gentleman's Lady
Race 7--1. Midnight Special 2. Quedan 3. Astimegoesby 4. Ilocos Queen
Race 8--1. D'Barrister 2. La Española 3. Cristel Jay 4. Dalidali

SPORTSTV

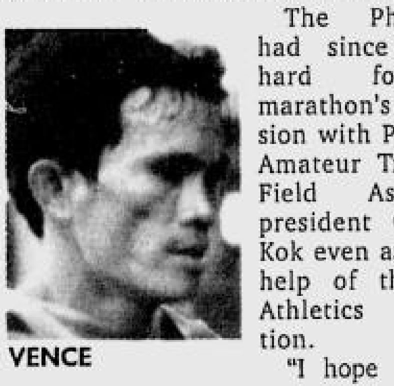
Compiled by L. Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Playoffs - Celtics vs Pacers, Game 5, 7:30 a.m. (r - 8 p.m.), Solar Sports
BOWLING: Aviva Asian Bowling Tour, 3:30 p.m. (r), ESPN
GYMNASTICS: SEC Gymnastics, 4:30 p.m. (r), ESPN
SOCCER: Western Union World Football, 10:30 a.m. (r), ESPN
POOL: World Pool Masters 2002 Finals, 6 p.m. (r), ESPN
World Pool League 2002 Finals, 7 p.m. (r), ESPN
Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Marathon inclusion elates Vence, Martes

By Marc Anthony Reyes

ROY Vence and Christabel Martes, elated over the news that the marathon had restored in the program of this year's Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam, are all set to show their wares when the Milo national open track and field championships kicks off tomorrow.



VENCE

The duo, who will defend their titles in the SEA Games in December, are expected to flex their muscles in their favorite events along with more than 1,000 other local and foreign participants in the meet.

"It gave us a new hope," said the 36-year-old Vence, also a champion of the prestigious Milo and PAL marathons. "We will try to catch up with the training with just a few months left."

After Vietnam decided to scrap the men's and women's marathon events, Vence and Martes were forced to train for the shorter 10,000-meter run. But national coach, Mario Castro, said they would again train for the 42.125km event.

The two have just arrived in Manila to compete in the National Open after training for months in the Philippine Sports Commission facilities in Teachers' Camp in Baguio City.

Vence and Martes had been hoping that Vietnam would reconsider its decision to exclude the event because of the lack of facilities and know-how.

The Philippines had since lobbied hard for the marathon's inclusion with Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok even asking the help of the Asian Athletics Association.

"I hope the news would bring back their high spirits," said Castro, who admitted that the athletes got depressed by Vietnam's earlier decision.

Martes, however, is recuperating from a pulled hamstring and is still a doubtful starter in the Open which will showcase 642 athletes from the province and 461 from Metro Manila.

Tracksters from Sabah, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand have also confirmed their participation in the trackfest. Malaysia and Thailand finished No. 1 and No. 2 in the medal-rich athletics events in the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games.

Tanauan batters keep title

SAN PABLO CITY--Tanauan scored an 8-7 come-from behind victory over Makati yesterday to retain the championship of the Big League 16-18 boys' baseball division at the San Nicolas grounds here.

The Batangueños, also the Asia Pacific champions, survived Jerry Dario's three run homerun in the opening frame to level in the bottom second. They went on to outhit their rivals, 7-6.

Shabu use costs Torion

From page A25

him a lesson and let it serve as a warning to other players," Chua said.

PBA commissioner Noli Eala earlier said the case will be discussed after the season is over, which means Torion is out of the league for the rest of the year.

To make sure Torion does not stray, Chua said the banned cager will be allowed to practice with the Red Ball team.

Torion will however have to content himself watching PBA games on television.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

AT A GLANCE

NBA PLAYOFFS 2003

EASTERN CONFERENCE

(1) Detroit vs. (8) Orlando
Magic 3, Pistons 1
Game 1: Orlando 99, Detroit 94
Game 2: Detroit 89, Orlando 77
Game 3: Orlando 89, Detroit 80
Game 4 : Orlando 100, Detroit 92
Game 5 at Detroit (May 1)

(2) New Jersey vs (7) Milwaukee
Nets 2, Bucks 2
Game 1: New Jersey 109, Milwaukee 96
Game 2: Milwaukee 88, New Jersey 85
Game 3: New Jersey 103, Milwaukee 101
Game 4 Milwaukee 119, New Jersey 114
Game 5 at New Jersey (April 30)

(3) Indiana vs (6) Boston
Pacers 1, Celtics 3
Game 1: Boston 103, Indiana 100
Game 2: Indiana 89, Boston 77
Game 3: Boston 101, Indiana 83
Game 4: Boston 102, Indiana 92
Game 5 at Indiana (April 30)

(4) Philadelphia vs (5) N. Orleans
Sixers 3, Hornets 1,
Game 1: Philadelphia 98, New Orleans 90
Game 2: Philadelphia 90, New Orleans 85
Game 3: New Orleans 99, Philadelphia 85
Game 4: Philadelphia 96, New Orleans 87
Game 5 at Philadelphia (May 1)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Spurs 2, Suns 2
Game 1 Phoenix 96, San Antonio 95 (OT)
Game 2: San Antonio 84, Phoenix 76
Game 3: San Antonio 99, Phoenix 86
Game 4: Phoenix 86, San Antonio 84
Game 5 at San Antonio (April 30)

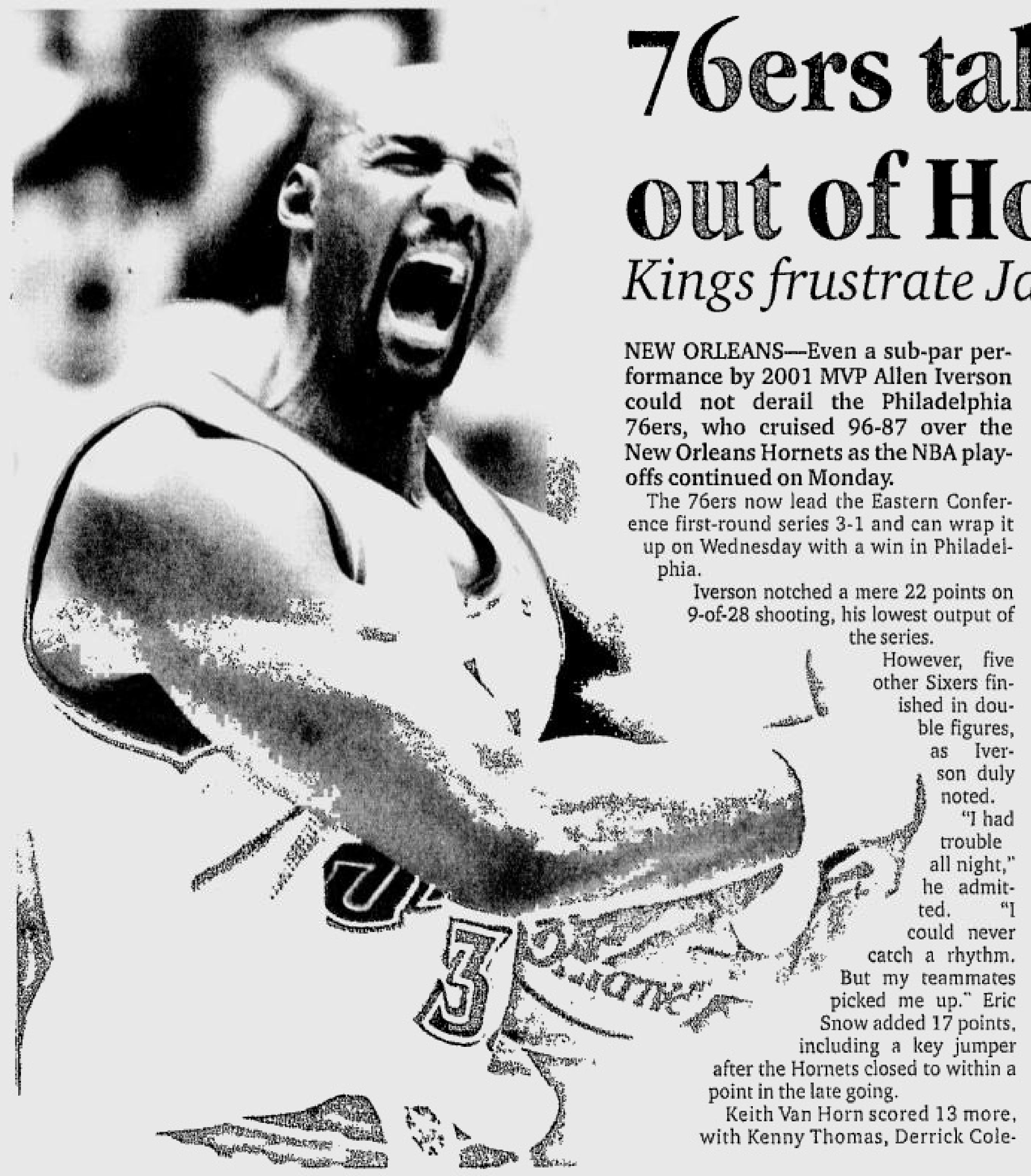
(2) Sacramento vs (7) Utah
Kings 3, Jazz 1
Game 1: Sacramento 96, Utah 90
Game 2: Sacramento 108, Utah 95
Game 3 Utah 107, Sacramento 104
Game 4: Sacramento 99, Utah 82
Game 5 at Sacramento (May 1)

(3) Dallas vs (6) Portland
Mavs 3, Blazers 1
Game 1: Dallas 96, Portland 86
Game 2: Dallas 103, Portland 99
Game 3: Dallas 115, Portland 103
Game 4: Portland 98, Dallas 79
Game 5 at Dallas (May 1)

(4) Minnesota vs. (5) LA Lakers
Wolves 2, Lakers 2
Game 1: LA Lakers 117, Minnesota 98
Game 2: Minnesota 119, LA Lakers 91
Game 3: Minnesota 114, LA Lakers 110
Game 4: LA Lakers 102, Minnesota 97
Game 5 at LA (April 30)

76ers take sting out of Hornets

Kings frustrate Jazz for 3-1 lead



MALONE shows his frustration after a foul was called against him in the fourth quarter. REUTERS

NEW ORLEANS—Even a sub-par performance by 2001 MVP Allen Iverson could not derail the Philadelphia 76ers, who cruised 96-87 over the New Orleans Hornets as the NBA playoffs continued on Monday.

The 76ers now lead the Eastern Conference first-round series 3-1 and can wrap it up on Wednesday with a win in Philadelphia.

Iverson notched a mere 22 points on 9-of-28 shooting, his lowest output of the series.

However, five other Sixers finished in double figures, as Iverson duly noted.

"I had trouble all night," he admitted. "I could never catch a rhythm. But my teammates picked me up." Eric Snow added 17 points, including a key jumper after the Hornets closed to within a point in the late going.

Keith Van Horn scored 13 more, with Kenny Thomas, Derrick Coleman and Aaron McKie all getting 11 apiece.

Baron Davis had 34 points in a losing cause.

THE NEW Jersey Nets and Milwaukee Bucks clash today in the pivotal Game Five of their first round NBA Playoffs series live at 7 a.m. on Solar Sports. Replay is at 8 p.m. Their best-of-seven series is tied at 2-2.

In Salt Lake City, a 36-18 third quarter proved decisive as the Sacramento Kings rallied to defeat the Utah Jazz 99-82 in Western Conference action.

The Kings now hold a 3-1 lead in the first-round series, with Game Five in Sacramento on Wednesday.

Sacramento fell eight points behind in the opening quarter but closed the gap to four by halftime.

"We just got down early," Sacramento's Chris Webber said after finishing with 26 points and 11 rebounds.

"But we stuck with it. You have to stay the course." Peja Stojakovic went one better with 27 points, 15 of them in the third quarter.

"We were aggressive in the second half," Stojakovic said.

Veteran Karl Malone paced the Jazz with 24 points, with Matt Harpring adding 18.

Malone was given a brief standing ovation when he left late in the game, possibly his last in Salt Lake.

Reuters

Popovich named NBA coach of the year

POPOVICH

SAN ANTONIO—Gregg Popovich won the NBA Coach of the Year award on Monday for leading the San Antonio Spurs to the league's best record.

Popovich, the first Spurs coach to win the award, received 40 out of a possible 121 first-place votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Golden State Warriors coach Eric Musselman was second with 26 first-place votes, and Utah Jazz coach Jerry Sloan was third (18).

Popovich, San Antonio's coach since December 1996, led the Spurs to their third straight Midwest Division title and a 60-22 record.

San Antonio once trailed Dallas by 8 1/2 games in the division, but the Spurs went 41-9, beginning Jan. 1, to pass the Mavericks in the final week of the season.

Popovich has a regular-season record of 339-185, giving him the most wins of any San Antonio coach, and he has a .647 winning percentage over seven seasons.

He is 35-26 in the playoffs. San Antonio is tied with Phoenix in the opening-round, best-of-seven series, with Game 5 on Tuesday night in San Antonio.

The Spurs have won at least 50 games in five of the past six seasons. In the strike-shortened 1998-99 season, San Antonio was 39-13 and went on to win its first NBA championship.

AP

STICK ON CRAZE! WIN A CASH!
DARLINGTON®

WALANG HIMULMOL SA LOOB NG SAKONG!

Promo period: March 15, 2003 to October 30, 2003

PROMO MECHANICS

1. Darlington stickers shall be distributed and may be acquired from any Darlington outlet. Promo covers Luzon and Metro Manila area only.

*2. To join the promo, Customer should stick the Darlington sticker on the rear of the vehicles (e.g. jeepney, tricycle, bus, car, scooter, etc.) or post/ expose visibly on any part outside their house (e.g. gate, fence, outside wall, etc.) Then write his/ her name, address, tel. no. and affix signature on the raffle stub at the back of the sticker, enclose in a white legal size envelope and mail to STICK ON CRAZE! WIN A CASH! c/o Ad Options 3/F Doña Guadalupe Bldg., 7462 Bagtikan St., San Antonio Village, Makati City or just drop the raffle stub/s at designated dropboxes located near the display rack at any Darlington outlet.

3. There will be six (6) Monthly draws to be held every last Friday of the month starting May 30, 2003 to October 31, 2003. The drawing of which is through tambiolo to be held at Ad Options at 2:00 PM to be supervised by a duly-authorized DTI representative with representatives from Darlington and Ad Options as well.

4. The monthly winners will be published on Philippine Daily Inquirer, Manila Bulletin and People's Journal. Winners will be notified through registered mail.

5 There will be twenty (20) winners of P1,000 in each Monthly draw

6. A customer can only win once per draw.

7. Non-winning entries will be included in all succeeding draws.

8. Only entries received until every last Thursday of the month from May 29-Oct. 30, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. qualify for the draw. Entries received beyond this deadline will be included in the succeeding draws

9. In claiming prizes, winners have to present the following:
   a. Any valid ID (Driver's license, Company/ Student ID, Passport, Voter's ID, SSS/ GSIS ID)
   b. The other half of the raffle stub with the matching winning raffle number
   c. P300.00 worth of Darlington socks and stockings (accumulated or single receipt dated within the promo period, March 15-October 30, 2003)
   d. The unit/ picture where the sticker is fixed.
   e. Copy of the registered mail.

Redemption of prizes for Metro Manila winners will be at Ad Options, 3/F Doña Guadalupe Bldg., 7462 Bagtikan St., San Antonio Village, Makati City. Redemption of prizes for Provincial winners will be through bank arrangement or through courier.

10. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification shall be forfeited in favor of Darlington with prior DTI-approval.

11. Employees of Darlington, its ad agency, promo persons, merchandisers and their relatives up to second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promo

12. Promo period is from March 15, 2003 to October 30, 2003.

*Approved by DTI-NCR

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0251 Series of 2003

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO PARK BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Aprey Special 2. Madam Aida
Race 2--1. Vhingget 2. Heavy Metal 3. Ray Moon
Race 3--1. Favorite Girl 2. Praetorian
Race 4--1. Hingis 2.Portal Dancer 3. Voltes May
Race 5--1. Absolute Charmer/Priceless Gem 2. Cryptorose
Race 6--1. Imperial Act 2. Miss Monroe 3. Gentleman's Lady
Race 7--1. Midnight Special 2 Quedan 3. Astimegoesby 4. Ilocos Queen
Race 8--1. D'Barrister 2. La Española 3. Cristel Jay 4. Dalidali

SPORTS TV

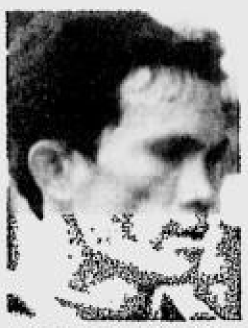
Compiled by L. Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Playoffs Celtics vs Pacers, Game 5, 7:30 a.m. (r 8 p.m.). Solar Sports
BOWLING: Aviva Asian Bowling Tour, 3:30 p.m (r), ESPN
GYMNASTICS: SEC Gymnastics, 4:30 p.m. (r), ESPN
SOCCER: Western Union World Football, 10:30 a.m. (r), ESPN
POOL: World Pool Masters 2002 Finals, 6 p.m. (r), ESPN
World Pool League 2002 Finals, 7 p.m. (r), ESPN
Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Marathon inclusion elates Vence, Martes

By Marc Anthony Reyes

ROY Vence and Christabel Martes, elated over the news that the marathon had restored in the program of this year's Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam, are all set to show their wares when the Milo national open track and field championships kicks off tomorrow.



VENCE

The duo, who will defend their titles in the SEA Games in December, are expected to flex their muscles in their favorite events along with more than 1,000 other local and foreign participants in the meet.

"It gave us a new hope," said the 36-year-old Vence, also a champion of the prestigious Milo and PAL marathons. "We will try to catch up with the training with just a few months left."

After Vietnam decided to scrap the men's and women's marathon events, Vence and Martes were forced to train for the shorter 10,000-meter run. But national coach, Mario Castro, said they would again train for the 42.125km event.

The two have just arrived in Manila to compete in the National Open after training for months in the Philippine Sports Commission facilities in Teachers' Camp in Baguio City.

Vence and Martes had been hoping that Vietnam would reconsider its decision to exclude the event because of the lack of facilities and know-how.

The Philippines had since lobbied hard for the marathon's inclusion with Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok even asking the help of the Asian Athletics Association.

"I hope the news would bring back their high spirits," said Castro, who admitted that the athletes got depressed by Vietnam's earlier decision.

Martes, however, is recuperating from a pulled hamstring and is still a doubtful starter in the Open which will showcase 642 athletes from the province and 461 from Metro Manila.

Tracksters from Sabah, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand have also confirmed their participation in the trackfest. Malaysia and Thailand finished No. 1 and No. 2 in the medal-rich athletics events in the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games.

Tanauan batters keep title

SAN PABLO CITY--Tanauan scored an 8-7 come-from behind victory over Makati yesterday to retain the championship of the Big League 16-18 boys' baseball division at the San Nicolas grounds here.

The Batangueños, also the Asia-Pacific champions, survived Jerry Dario's three run homerun in the opening frame to level in the bottom second. They went on to outhit their rivals, 7-6.

Shabu use costs Torion

From page A25

him a lesson and let it serve as a warning to other players," Chua said.

PBA commissioner Noli Eala earlier said the case will be discussed after the season is over, which means Torion is out of the league for the rest of the year.

To make sure Torion does not stray, Chua said the banned cager will be allowed to practice with the Red Ball team.

Torion will however have to content himself watching PBA games on television.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Star in the time of SARS

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

HE was a coach's darling. The crowd's too.

If his team, buried in deep anxiety, needed a big basket, he was always there to deliver, on the dot, like your trusted mailman.

He was often magical with his precise, arching long shots.

He was a miracle man who could restore faith in prayers.

Take it from one who had seen it all. In the Taipei Jones Cup of 1985, 1990 Beijing Asiad, ABC championship in Kuala Lumpur 1986, even in the Gerona (Spain) World Club Basketball championship.

Allan Caidic was the big hero many times over, both for the Philippine team and his mother squad.

***

That said, if goes without saying that the deep misery Caidic has been suffering in the Ginebra team bench is definitely not a result of karma.

If this is payback time, the guy deserves the best he could get from what he has invested.

He has been very good to the game.

He will remain one of Philippine basketball's most remarkable heroes.

In fact, they may have to build a monument for him when the time comes.

So, pardon my asking this: why are his players at Ginebra performing as though they wanted Caidic to lose his job?

Why are his players paying him back with, yes, trash?

***

No kidding. You have seen the series of awful Ginebra setbacks, capped by its last game against Coca-Cola.

That last outing was not a game, it was an anomaly.

Yes, Ginebra nearly scored a record in infamy; but luckily only matched the horrendous two-point output by a team in a quarter.

The team also ended up a cheap, laughing stock.

***

Actually, nobody had expected Ginebra to win all its games.

But when the current season started, and with the team getting dream additions in all positions, Ginebra inevitably became a top pick to qualify early.

Sorry folks, Ginebra is back in that familiar place, close to the bottom, an uneasy schoolkid all set to excuse itself and go out.

In fact, it's said coach Caidic, still puzzled, had admitted he had tried his best but could not get the desired results.

There was this supposed bull session where practically all team members ended up admitting their mistakes.

***

Yes, the Gin Kings were all trying very hard, but it's no plain coincidence Team Ginebra keeps falling flat, hard, on its face.

Why? It's easy to see that the Gin Kings, in each trying their best, often end up outdoing one another. They often do things their own way.

There was, for example, the chief point guard who goes out to score, with the expected pass to the open man only a poor, second option.

Listen. A deeper look would bare that Ginebra has the ideal ingredients but sorely lacks the right chemistry.

The pieces would not fit, resulting into the team being robbed of extra dimension.

***

Of course, Ginebra still swears and lives by that so-called never-say-die spirit, rendered legendary by predecessors led by Sen. Robert Jaworski.

No need to consult the Big J, who would readily swear that his Ginebra team lived and die by the Big D–defense!

Clearly, the sorriest aspect of this new-day Ginebra team is that, unlike Big J's hardy bunch, it relies, oh so heavily, on artillery.

It would help if the team would fight harder to hold down opponents, instead of trying to outscore them at every turn.

***

No need to ask coach Caidic.

Turning his players into mean, unforgiving defenders overnight is easier said than done.

It's indeed a thankless job Caidic has inherited.

Why? With the team buildup, there were great expectations the Ginebra would finally go places this year.

He was, in short, put in a no-win situation.

If they qualified, critics would say it was just to be expected, considering the terrific manpower build-up.

Still, the big question is: Why is misery hounding coach Allan Caidic like a curse, as though he had been unkind to the game and his past coaches?

Unthinkable. There's no reason why he has to be billed the star in the time of the SARS epidemic.

SPORTSWATCH

Routs mark cagefest

ROUTS marked the Nike Battlegrounds knockout games recently at the Phelps Dodge Gym in Mandaluyong City. Merville beat Wack Wack, 103-55, while Ayala Alabang massacred San Miguel Village, 110-46. Also posting convincing victories were Magallanes, Bel-Air, Greenmeadows, Philam Village and San Lorenzo Village. Magallanes trounced Palm Village, 81-58; Bel-Air beat Mariana Village, 100-73; Greenmeadows dumped Loyola Heights, 68-54; Philam outplayed Dasmariñas, 87-68; and San Lorenzo Village clobbered Valle Verde, 110-70.

Cagas tops qualifiers

QUEZON City's Dante Cagas topped the last 20 qualifiers for the 1st Tour of Isabela when he ruled the Pililla-Jala-Jala to Mabitac race on Sunday. Cagas, clocked 1 hour, 30 minutes, 43.04 seconds for the 53-km uphill climb. The 60 finalists will try to match or beat 1996 Tour of Luzon champion Victor Espiritu, one of seven seeded cyclists in the 3-day Isabela Day race that starts on May 7. Also seeded were Villamor Baluyot, Wilson Blas and four junior members of the national team. David Perez and Joel Balucus of the Philippine Air Force cycling team came in second and third, respectively.

Mandaue tennis May 3

JOSEPH Victorino will be seeking his third straight title when the third Mandaue City National men's Tennis Open is held May 3-9 at the Mantads court. Victorino will be opposed by fellow Davis Cupper Johnny Arcilla and other top players. Registration is open at the Philta office (tel. 525-6434). Players may also contact Cherry Ouano (032-3443322 and 032-3451527 loc. 204) and tournament referee Godfrey Caliao (0919-2315991).

Challenge Cup leader

DE LA MERCED

GABY de la Merced posted 36 points after four rounds to lead the SVI Challenge Cup overall standings at the Subic International Raceway. The 20-year-old fine arts student also took pole position in the qualifying round, half a second ahead of teammate Mikko David.

Magdal paces kegfest

THE GRAND National and Youth duckpin bowling championships rolled off recently with NSBA's Boying Magdal and the pair of Inez G. Magbual (D'Friendly) and Vey Manalo (MDBC) taking the lead in the A/B singles event at the Marketplace lanes. Magdal rolled a two-game series of 452 pins to pace Winnie Sotton (411), Louie Tandingan (397), Val Almazan (397), Bert Sales (397), Ding de Guzman (396), and Caloy Inocencio (394) in the men's division. Magbual and Manalo carded 385s to move ahead of Sonio Quitalig (382), Lorenz Hilaus (381), Geena Gregorio (370), Ruby Villamil (358), Maa Aregla (355) and Baby Inocencio (355) in the ladies group.

4-cocker lures 60 bets

AT least 50 entries are expected to take part in a 4-cock derby to be hosted by sportsman Bobot Yu on June 13 at the Pasay City Cockpit. For an entry of P10,000, the guaranteed prize is at least P300,000. Minimum bet is P5,500 in the event sponsored by Sagupaan B-50 Forten. For inquiries and cockhouse reservation, call 816-6750, 843-1890 and 843-1746.

Dumaguete hosts triathlon

THE THIRD leg of the Enervon–National Age Group Triathlon (NAGT) 2003 Series will be held in Dumaguete City on Sunday with around 70 to 80 participants. It will cater to the 16 and above triathletes. Those who are 5 to to 15 years old may compete in the first leg of the Fit and Tri Youth Triathlon series set at the Las Villas de Manila in Biñan, Laguna.

Nasa invites skydiver

CHAMPION skydiver Lt. Commander Irene Malutao Mora, pilot of the Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary Operation Wing, has been given invitation by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. This is the first time a Filipina was given such recognition by the NASA. Mora, 30, bested more than 2,000 participants in winning the gold wing in the Friendship Airborne 2003 International Skydiving Championship in Bangkok recently.

Goddard joins Subic F3

FILIPINOS get the chance to see Formula 3 action when the first leg of the Asian Formula 3 Series is held May 10-11 at the Subic International raceway inside the Subic Bay Freeport. Defending AF3 champion and Castrol Ambi Pur driver Mark Goddard of the United Kingdom, 2002 AF2000 champion Dennis Lian of Singapore, 2002 Asian Formula Renault titleholder Enzo Pastor of the Philippines and 2001 Philippine Formula 3 champion Jojo Silverio of the Philippines have confirmed their participation

Roy Luarca

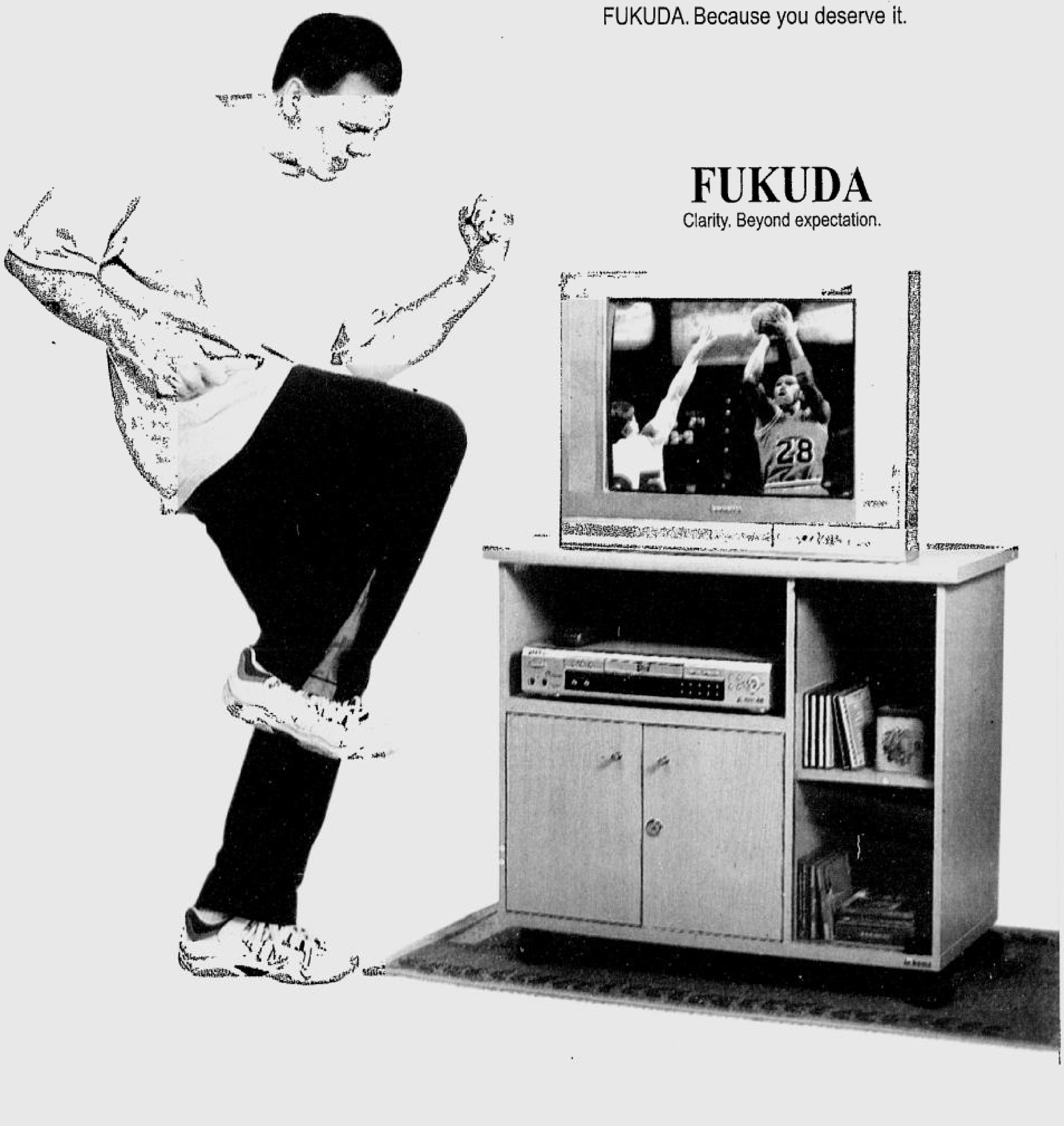
Feel.

181 Channel Program Memory. Cable Ready. Intelligent Picture Control. 120 Minute Sleep Timer. Auto Voltage System. Just some of the many features the FUKUDA deliver.

Best of all, with its proven Extra Clear Color Picture Tube and AV Stereo System, you get sharper pictures and clearer sound every time. It's like watching live but with the convenience of replays and halftime snacks.

FUKUDA. Because you deserve it.

FUKUDA
Clarity. Beyond expectation.



ALL DIGITAL SOUND

AYALA CINEMAS

PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1
1 XEREX
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 X-MEN 2
4 X-MEN 2

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 X-MEN 2
2 X-MEN 2
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 3 X-MEN 2 11 20 2 10 [illegible] 40 [illegible] 50 10 40
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
6 X-MEN 2
7 TILL THERE WAS YOU

GB1 GREENBELT 1
ArtFilm 1 TITUS (Exclusive Screenings) 12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20
2 X-MEN 2 12:05, 2:55, 5:45, 8:35
ACOUSTIC NIGHT OUT FEAT. FREESTYLE May 1, 2 & 3

GB3 GREENBELT 3
GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 X-MEN 2 2:35 5:30 8:25 11:20
GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 X-MEN 2 1:55 4:50 7:45 10:40
GUARANTEED SEATS 3 X-MEN 2 12 20 3 15 6 10 9 05 12 00
GUARANTEED SEATS 4 JOHNNY ENGLISH 1 10 3 30 5 30 7 30 9 30 11 30
GUARANTEED SEATS 5 ANGER MANAGEMENT 12 40 2 50 5 00 7 10 9 20 11 30

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
THX 1 X-MEN 2
2 X-MEN 2
3 X-MEN 2
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU

For sreening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting **SURESEATS GB3** or **SURESEATS G4** and send to 2333. Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DOLBY) ANGER MANAGEMENT
2 (SDDS) WHAT A GIRL WANTS
3 (DTS) X-MEN-2
4 GOLD (DTS EX) JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 GOLD (DOLBY EX) X-MEN-2
6 GOLD (SDDS) EQUILIBRIUM
7 GOLD (DOLBY EX) X-MEN-2
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU
9 TILL THERE WAS YOU
10 XEREX

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 (DTS) RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 (DTS) RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA 1 2 & 3
(Pasay) tel 833.3290, 833.3274
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 X-MEN-2
3 XEREX

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 XEREX
3 PHONE BOOTH
4 DOLBY DIGITAL EX X-MEN-2
5 PUNLA

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 PUNLA
2 BOLD STAR
3 X-MEN-2
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 XEREX
6 JOHNNY ENGLISH

M star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel 873.5004
1 PHONE BOOTH
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 8934225, 8922503
X-MEN-2

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 KANGAROO JACK
2 NATIONAL SECURITY

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515
1
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 BOLD STAR

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 X-MEN-2
3 OBSESSION
4 DIBDIBAN ANG LABAN

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588
1 X-MEN-2
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 XEREX
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU
7 (DTS) X-MEN-2
8 SDDS EQUILIBRIUM
9 DOLBY JOHNNY ENGLISH

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928
1 XEREX
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 A MAN APART
6 DOLBY X-MEN-2
7 DTS X-MEN-2
8 PUNLA
9 BOLD STAR

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 XEREX
3 X-MEN-2
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 XEREX
3 JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 X-MEN-2

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 XEREX

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson XEREX
Lords YOUNG VIRGIN
Jennet RESERVE

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 X-MEN-2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 BOLD STAR
4

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238
1 EX X-MEN-2
2 XEREX
3
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)
1
2

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030, 879.2029
1 X-MEN-2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta

MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821.8242.8400
1 XEREX
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 X-MEN-2
5 (DTS) X-MEN-2
6 PHONE BOOTH
7 EQUILIBRIUM

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821.8242.8400
1 X-MEN-2
2 XEREX

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
TEL. (049) 837-0926
1 XEREX
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 (DTS) X-MEN-2

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 XEREX
2 (DTS) TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 (DOLBY) X-MEN-2
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 (DOLBY) JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 (DTS) X-MEN-2
4 XEREX

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 JUST MARRIED
2 SEX DRIVE
3 (DOLBY) KANGAROO JACK
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729
1 BOLD STAR
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 (DOLBY) WISH MASTER
4 X-MEN-2

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305
1 (DOLBY) X-MEN-2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 BOLD STAR

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) RESERVE
2 BOLD STAR
3 (DTS) TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 X-MEN-2

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) X-MEN-2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 (DTS) JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
5 XEREX

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 XEREX
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 X-MEN-2

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558
1 X-MEN-2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 XEREX

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 RING-2
2 XEREX
3 (DTS) TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 X-MEN-2

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808
1 (DTS) RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 PUNLA
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 NATIONAL SECURITY
2 X-MEN-2
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 RING-2

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 TO 03
1 (DOLBY EX) JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 X-MEN-2
4 SOLARIS

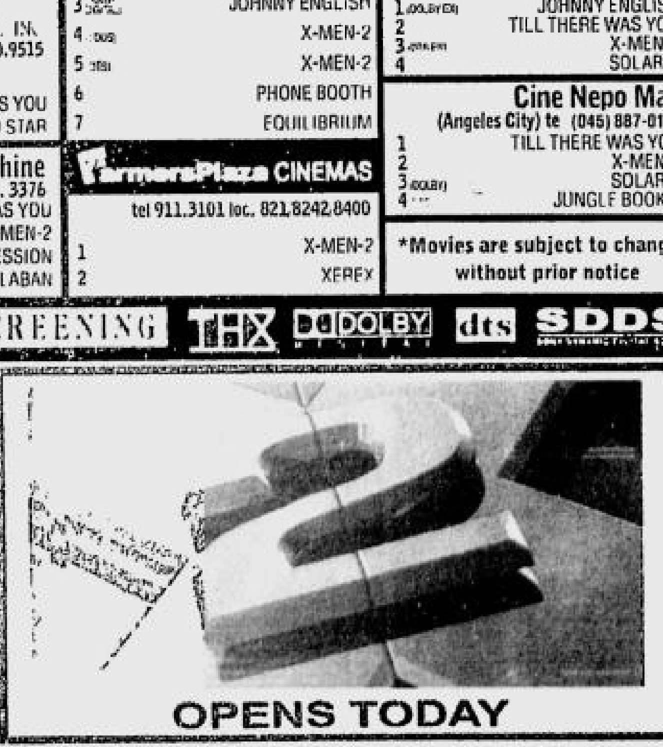
Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) te (045) 887-0121
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 X-MEN-2
3 (DOLBY) SOLARIS
4 JUNGLE BOOK-2

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang

Tel. 85035-71 to 72



OPENS TODAY

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868
1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 PUNLA
3 X-MEN 2
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 X-MEN 2
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU
7 XEREX
8 EQUILIBRIUM

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 BOLDSTAR
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 XEREX
5 X-MEN 2
6 A MAN APART
7 X-MEN 2
8 JOHNNY ENGLISH
9 TILL THERE WAS YOU
10 WHAT A GIRL WANTS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749
1 THE CORE
2 EQUILIBRIUM
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 X-MEN 2
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
6 XEREX
7 X-MEN 2
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU
9 A MAN APART
10 BOLDSTAR
11 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
12 ANGER MANAGEMENT

SM CITY MANILA
5239240
1 X-MEN 2
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
4 X-MEN 2
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 EQUILIBRIUM
7 PHONE BOOTH
8 A MAN APART
9 TILL THERE WAS YOU
10 THE CORE
11 TILL THERE WAS YOU
12 XEREX

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401
1 PHONE BOOTH
2 X-MEN 2
3 X-MEN 2
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
6 ANGER MANAGEMENT
7 A MAN APART
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU
9 XEREX
10 TILL THERE WAS YOU
11 EQUILIBRIUM
12 PUNLA

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452
1 EQUILIBRIUM
2 X-MEN 2
3 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE
4 XEREX
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 ANGER MANAGEMENT
7 JOHNNY ENGLISH
8 X-MEN 2

SM SOUTHMALL
8068888
1 A MAN APART
2 ANGER MANAGEMENT
3 X-MEN 2
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
6 EQUILIBRIUM
7 XEREX
8 X-MEN 2
9 JOHNNY ENGLISH
10 TILL THERE WAS YOU

SM CITY CEBU
2313876
1 X-MEN 2
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 KANGAROO JACK
4 EQUILIBRIUM
5 XEREX
6 WISHMASTER 4
7 TILL THERE WAS YOU
8 X-MEN 2

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422
1 JUST MARRIED
2 CLOSED
3 X-MEN 2
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
6 X-MEN 2
7 CLOSED
8 XEREX

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015
1 X-MEN 2
2 X-MEN 2
3 JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 XEREX
5 SOLARIS
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975
1 XEREX
2 X-MEN 2
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302
1 X-MEN 2
2 XEREX
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998
1 X-MEN 2
2 XEREX
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 X-MEN 2

SM BICUTAN
776-3055
1 X-MEN 2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 XEREX
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884
1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 NATIONAL SECURITY
4 X-MEN 2

THE PODIUM CINEMA
18 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center Mandaluyong City
633-8976
1 ANGER MANAGEMENT
11:15 FS/11:45 MF/2:00/4:15/6:30/8:45/
10:35 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:50 END
2 X2: X-MEN UNITED
11:10 FS/11:40 MF/2:30/5:20/8:10/
10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/1:20 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee P100.00 • Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate P120.00 • After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMAS

@ Robinsons Malls

call-a-movie: 536- 7812

NOW SHOWING

Galleria 632- 9115- 16 633- 7641 loc. 279
THX X-MEN2 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 LMF, 9:30 END
2 X-MEN2
3 JOHNNY ENGLISH
4 XEREX
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 X-MEN2
7 EQUILIBRIUM
8 ANGER MANAGEMENT
9 A MAN APART
10 WHAT A GIRL WANTS

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema P75 level cinemas
Mon.- Fri. / 10am- 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita 536 -7809- 12
1 X-MEN 2
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 XEREX
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 X-MEN 2
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU
7 X-MEN 2

Metro East - Marcos hway 682- 8193 / 8280
1 ANGER MANAGEMENT
2 X-MEN 2
3 JOHNY ENGLISH
4 EQUILIBRIUM
5 PHONE BOOTH
6 XEREX
7 X-MEN 2
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU

Novaliches 935- 3229 - 30
1 X- MEN 2
2 A MAN APART
3 XEREX
4 JOHNY ENGLISH
5 X- MEN 2
6 ANGER MANAGEMENT
7 EQUILIBRIUM
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU

Malabon Citisquare 288-0985 / 288-2575
1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 X- MEN 2
3 JOHNY ENGLISH
4 XEREX

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp. (045)875-1927 (045)961-5270
1 SOLARIS
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 WILLARD
4 XEREX
5 X-MEN2
6 X-MEN2

Imus 471- 8188 / 875- 3838
1 X-MEN 2
2 XEREX
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 A MAN APART
5 X-MEN 2
6 JOHNY ENGLISH

Sta. Rosa Laguna (049)837-0907
1 XEREX
2 X- MEN 2
3 TIL THERE WAS YOU
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH
5

Bacolod 441- 0453 / 0459
1 X-MEN 2
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 JUST MARRIED
5 X-MEN 2
6 SEX AND ZEN

Iloilo 336- 8077 - 78
1 X-MEN2
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 XEREX
5 SHADOW OF VAMPIRE
6 X-MEN 2

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

John braves SARS fear, goes to Canada to be with Vanessa B10

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph
ENTERTAINMENT
Editor Louie C. Camino

Get ready for Mikey, Governor Lapid

LAPID

ARROYO

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

GUAGUA, Pampanga—Movie actor and Pampanga Vice Gov. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo's birthday celebration here last Saturday looked every bit an early campaign for his congressional bid in Pampanga's second district, some local politicians observed.

But Arroyo, the eldest son of President Macapagal-Arroyo, said there was no political motive behind the simultaneous events held on his 34th birthday at the plaza of this town, the biggest town in the district in terms of votes.

"I've always celebrated my birthday in the district since 2001 (when he was elected vice governor)," Arroyo told the INQUIRER. "There's no political color to this. I simply wanted to celebrate it in a significant way, like delivering social services that the people deserve."

It was the first time that Arroyo chose Guagua, the commercial center of the second district, as the site of the social services caravan of his office.

At the Gomburza town plaza, the Department of Health held an "Operation Tuli" (circumcision) for 400 boys, the Department of Labor and Employment opened a job fair while the Department of Environment and Natural Resources distributed land titles to 73 families.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development held a supplemental feeding program for children and distributed food packs to about 500 families. The vice governor's office also gave out 1,000 food packs.

The Department of Agriculture gave out 1,000 seedlings of tamarind, 1,000 of *duhat* and 1,000 of *achuete*.

Luli, Arroyo's sister, mobilized a friend's company, which is involved in the hairstyling business, to provide free haircut for residents.

Arroyo also tapped the Pampanga chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines to provide free legal counseling.

He gave loans worth P50,000 each to four rural workers' associations in Porac, the hometown of Pampanga Gov. Manuel Lapid.

The biggest set of projects that Arroyo announced was the P70 million worth of bridges in Guagua (P15.204 million), Floridablanca (P13.042 million), Sta. Rita (P8.042 million), Lubao (P17.226 million) and in Porac (P13.042 million).

Public Works Undersecretary Salvador Pleyto said these projects would be funded by the President's P2-billion "Tulay ng Pangulo" which in turn is a project funded by the British government.

The proposed five bridges would have a life span of 100 years, Pleyto told the INQUIRER before the groundbreaking ceremony.

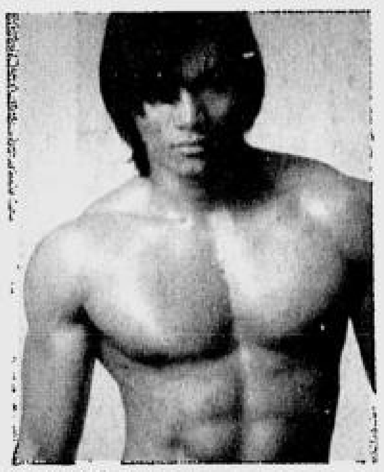
Arroyo said he and Lapid have worked to have the projects implemented in the poorest and flood-prone parts of the district.

He started the day by attending a Mass at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral here, accompanied by his wife Angela. The cathedral was packed with well-wishers that included politicians.

Mossimo Bikini summit to pick new 'Jordan Herrera'

MENDOZA

MERCADO



ZABALA

CONCEPCION

SHOW STOPPERS

SO WHO will be the Jordan Herrera wannabe in this year's batch of hopefuls in the Mossimo Bikini Summit?

Jordan placed only second in the 2002 Mossimo bikini summit but he has been the competition's biggest product so far. Last year's male grand prize winner, Carlo Maceda, is now also in the movies but not as big a star as Jordan. Last year's top female winner, Ritchie Bingcang, looked like a very good movie material but has not been heard of after the Boracay finals in April 2002. She is said to have gone to the United States.

This year, 12 buff young men and 12 shapely young women screened from more than 500 applicants are competing in the Mossimo Bikini Summit, to be held at Club Panoly Resort in Boracay. They are Mico Areglado, Siegfried Monserrat, KC Thadani, Adrian Zabala III, Rodolfo Solis, Albert Guinto, Spencer Concepcion, Jerome Uy, Angel James Dee, Jonas Jason Baltasar, Ronald Brent Javier and Deone Dasallas; and Dyan Acuesta, Joyce Andres, Mary Ann Mendoza, Fatima Mbengue, Elaine Gatdula, Chrischelle Magaspi, Angel Mendoza, Liza Camering, Kristine-Mari Arboleda, Bernadeth Mercado, Julia Duncan and Tessa MacDonald.

The finals night will be on May 3, 7 p.m., at the beachfront of Club Panoly. It will be hosted by TJ Manotoc, Angel Jacob and Carlo Maceda, now a contract star of Viva Films. The show will also feature performances by Luke Mejares, Viva Records' new Fil-Am all-male singing group Devotion, and Maui Taylor, Katya Santos, Gwen Garci and Jen Rosendhal of Viva Hot Babes, with the Whiplash Dancers.

The candidates will be wearing bikinis by Mossimo and the summer collection of Edwin Uy and Mel Vergel de Dios.

Stage and fashion direction is by Duds Santiago, with TV direction by Calvin Neria. The finals night will be shown on RPN-9, the Mossimo Bikini Summit 2003's official network, on May 25 as the featured special on Sunday's Big Event.

For more information about the 2003 Mossimo Bikini Summit, stay tuned to its official radio stations, 88.3 Citylite, 89.9 DWTM, Wave 89.1, 103.5 K-Lite, 105.1 Crossover and 99.5 RT.

Let's Party!!!

Celebrate your child's birthday party at the coolest and most exciting fully air-conditioned amusement theme park and family entertainment center in town!

FREE
- Party Host
- Party Games
- Party Prizes
- Party Amenities
- Party Room
- Mascot Appearance
- Birthday Cake
- Birthday Gift

Robinsons Dreamscape
Level 4, Robinsons Galleria
EDSA corner Ortigas Avenue, Q.C
Tel. Nos. 631-7594 or 633-7641 loc. 197

You even get FREE Cartoon Film Showing or FREE face painting if you book your party one month in advance!

CUT THIS AD and present to Dreamscape Birthday Party Sales Office to avail ten percent (10%) discount on parties booked on weekends and holidays and fifteen percent (15%) discount on parties booked on weekdays*

*Not valid in conjunction with any other on-going discount promos of Dreamscape.

PDI

Enchanted Kingdom

THIS SUMMER, WE'RE OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.

DATE	DAYS	OPERATING HOURS
March 31-June 1	Monday-Friday	2pm-10pm
	Saturday-Sunday	10am-10pm
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE		
April 26 8th Annual Grand Fireworks Competition	Saturday	10am-10pm (competition starts at 7pm)
May 1, Labor Day	Thursday	10am-10pm
May 17 & 24	Saturday	**CLOSED** for a private function

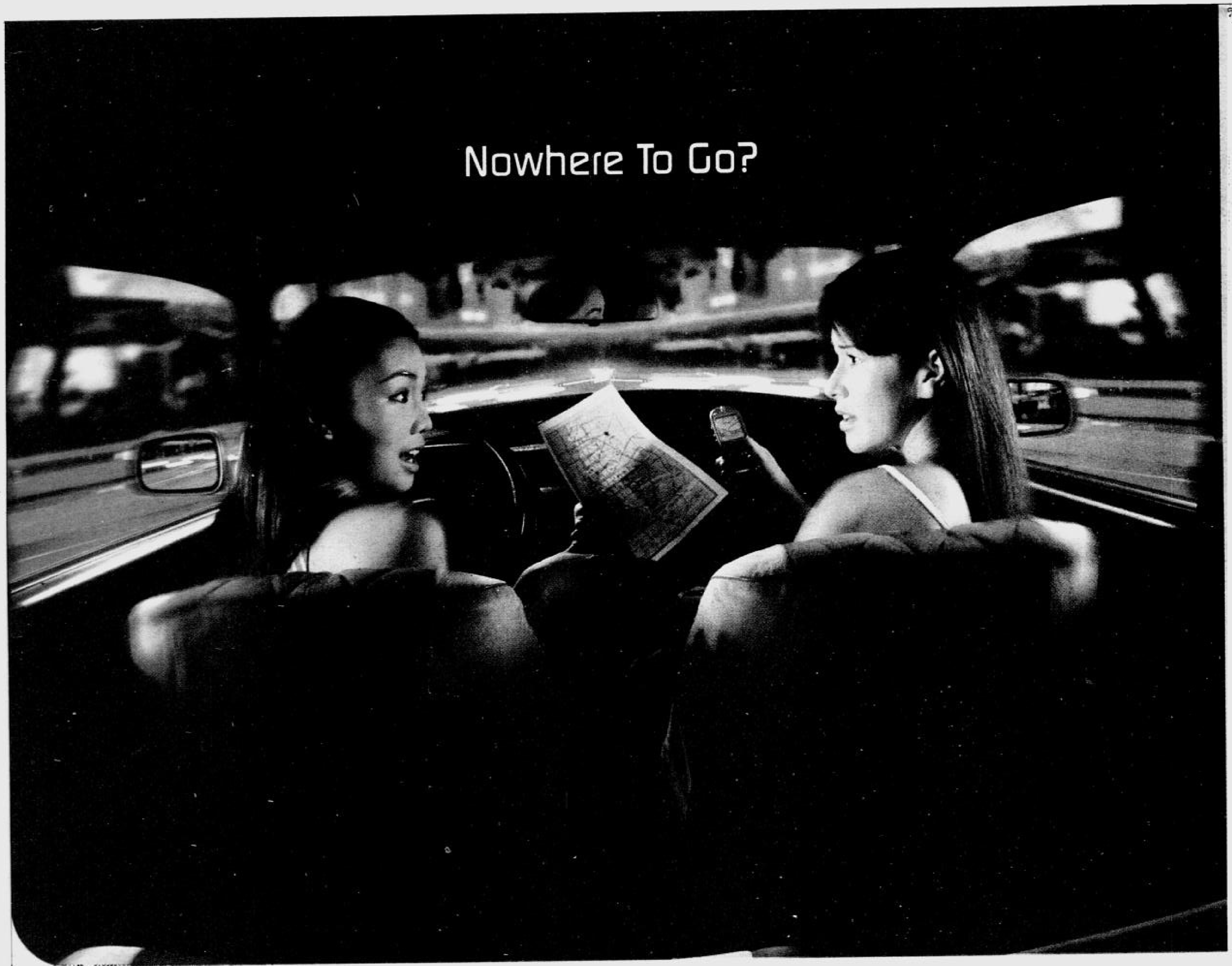
EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC WITH OUR AFFORDABLE TICKET RATES (Effective May 1, 2003)

	WEEKDAY	WEEKEND	
EK DAY PASS	Php 400.00	Php 500.00	Access to 19 all-time favorite rides!
WIZARD'S TREAT	Php 300.00	Php 300.00	A magical combo of unlimited carousel rides plus Php 300 in Wizard Money!
CAROUSEL SPECIAL	Php 100.00	Php 100.00	A grand experience! All carousel, all the time!
*4D DISCOVERY THEATER	Php 40.00 (EK Day Pass) Php 80.00 (Carousel Special)	Php 40.00 (EK Day Pass) Php 80.00 (Carousel Special)	Don't just see and hear a movie... be a part of it!
XTREME PAINTBALL	Php 100/day	Php 100/day	Inclusive of CO2 marker, mask, headgear, vest and 20 rounds of paintballs.

*Opening this May

Visit our website: www.enchantedkingdom.com.ph

Makati Sales Office: G/F, Tropical Palms Condominium, De la Rosa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City • Park Address: Enchanted Kingdom, San Lorenzo South, Sta. Rosa, Laguna • Tel. No. [illegible] • Tickets also available at all Ticketworld outlets [illegible]


Nowhere To Go?

Know Where to Go!

SMART
N. Garcia
Burgos
Rockwell
Paseo De Ro
Ayala Ave
EDS
Back | Home

Location: Sen Gil Puyat Ave
City/Municipality: Makati City

SMART MMS Finder & TravelGuide

Introducing the SMART MMS Finder and TravelGuide.

Two innovative features from SMART that let's you enjoy the convenience of locating establishments, getting driving directions and information on different traveling destinations – with just a few clicks on your celfone.

First, experience the convenience of the SMART MMS Finder:
- The first WAP-based location finder.
- Get directions to get to a chosen establishment within the metro.
- Shows you conventional routes, detours, and even the nearest outlet of an establishment via a state-of-the-art graphical map.

Second, the MMS TravelGuide is the best guide for travelers. With the MMS TravelGuide, you can:
- Easily locate a particular tourist spot, or facility, in the country.
- Get travel routes and travel details of your chosen destination.
- Get colored photos of popular tourist sites with infos.

With these two innovations, finding your way is as easy as reaching for your celfone. And with it's hassle-free features, the only thing you'll get lost for...are words.

To access MMS Finder:
1. Go to the SMART iNET WAP home page.
2. Click on the "Where is?" link within NEW! and under Services.

Note: Cost per download is P5.00 each.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

powered by ants

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

DotPH Webhosting.
- Fast.
- Reliable.
- Secure.

www.dot.PH
The Official Domain Registry of the Philippines

WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 30, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

B1

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph • Website: www.inq7money.net

BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Women, WORRIED ABOUT HAIR LOSS?
Call Svenson now! 819-3336

‘Made in China’ products flooding RP

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE SARS epidemic is posing not only a serious threat to the country’s public health but also to the well-being of its domestic manufacturing industry as China, ground zero of the global SARS epidemic, dumps its excess goods on the Philippines at sharply marked down prices.

Based on his discussions with Divisoria and Baclaran traders, Manila Rep. Harry Angping reported that there had been a “dramatic” drop in prices of Made-in-China goods over the past few weeks because of the decline in the consumer demand in the Mainland.

Angping said that prices of Chinese imports—from food items to consumer goods—have fallen by as much as 50 percent. As the SARS outbreak force most Chinese to stay indoors and hold off purchases, Chinese traders have increasingly looked outside their country to offload their excess inventory.

This has prompted Divisoria and Baclaran traders to increase their orders and offer Filipino consumers juicier bargains. Angping said this should explain why the crowds at Divisoria and Baclaran—the country’s leading shopping bargain centers—have hardly thinned despite public alarm over the spread of the SARS virus in the country. “The discounts in Divisoria and Baclaran are just to good to ignore for wholesalers and consumers,” Angping said.

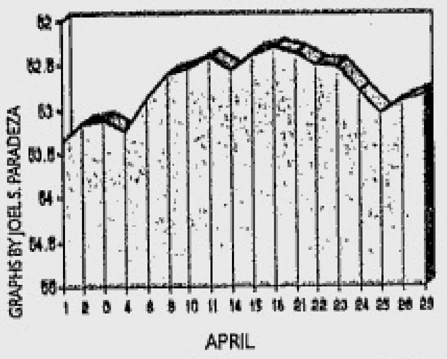
But while this could be a boon to consumers, Angping warned that the influx of more Chinese goods at increasingly lower prices would only compound the woes of local industries which have been complaining about the rampant smuggling and dumping of Chinese goods into the country even before the SARS outbreak.

Angping, who joined a Philippine exhibit in Shanghai last month, said the Department of Trade and Industry and the Bureau of Customs should look into this trend to determine whether it should impose anti-dumping measures on Chinese goods and ensure that all Chinese imports have been assessed properly.

Angping also proposed that the government put Chinese imports under tighter quarantine measures to ensure that the SARS virus were not carried by the Chinese imports.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

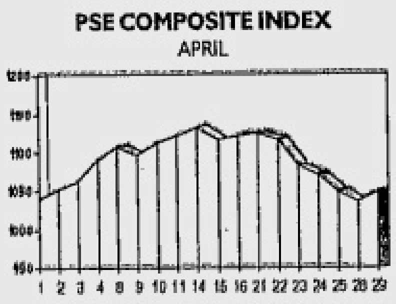
P 52.825 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., April 29,2003

¥ 120.22 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., April 29,2003

GOLD: $333.00-333.50
per ounce Hong Kong, April 29,2003

STOCK MARKET

Stocks snap 5 days of losses



(See stock market report on Page B4)

STOCKS snapped a five-day losing streak yesterday after local benchmark treasury bill rates eased and the US market rallied.

But analysts said the gains, led by property developers Ayala Land and SM Prime Holdings , may not be sustained given the lack of fundamental support.

"This is just a technical bounce. We came down to support level and that's where we are coming from," said AB Capital economic analyst Jose Vistan. “Perhaps it would consolidate in the next sessions."

The main index rose 12.08 points or 1.17 percent to 1,048.37 after losing 7.9 percent in the previous five trading days due to concerns about the country's budget deficit and the potential impact of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

It is up 2.94 percent since the start of the year.

Turnover slowed to P207.3 million yesterday from Monday's P324.51 million. Gainers beat losers 37 to 14 and 33 stocks were unchanged.

"Previously, market sentiment was optimistic but this was tempered after the Standard & Poor's downgrade. Now we're just waiting for fresh developments," said Vistan, who saw the market moving in a range of 1,030 to 1,080 points.

Leading shopping center developer SM Prime, which accounted for nearly 30 percent of total turnover, rose 2.2 percent or 10 centavos to P4.65.

SM Prime officials said on Monday the group's first-quarter net income likely grew 10 to 12 percent and that it planned to open three malls this year.

Ayala Land, the largest property developer, rose 4.21 percent or 20 centavos to P4.95.

Reuters

No trading on May 2

THERE will be no stock market trading on Friday, May 2, Philippine Stock Exchange president Ernest Leung announced yesterday.

"There's no clearing, so there's no trading," Leung said, noting that the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas had announced that there would be no clearing of checks on that day.

This means that the local stock market will pause for a long weekend starting tomorrow, which is an official non-working holiday to celebrate the International Labor Day.

Trading will resume on Monday (May 5).

BIR seen meeting P47-B collection target for April

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue is confident of meeting and even exceeding its P47.423-billion collection target for the month as its intensified tax campaign prompted taxpayers to settle their obligations.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said the BIR and the Bureau of Customs were expected to meet their respective targets for April.

The BIR said that as of last Monday, it had collected about P46 billion.

The internal revenue agency is trying to catch up on its collection to wipe out the P4.7-billion shortfall incurred in the first quarter. The bureau collected P89.9 billion in the first three months against a target of P94.6 billion.

The Customs exceeded its first-quarter goal by 18.6 percent with collections of P26.7 billion.

“The BIR and the Customs have sustained the positive collection trend in April based on preliminary numbers. I hope that their relentless efforts to boost revenue would be sustained in the months ahead," the finance chief said.

Revenue Commissioner Guillermo Parayno Jr. said the bureau would meet its P424-billion target for the year as reforms to improve collection and reduce tax evasion continued to bear fruit.

A tax mapping and saturation drive launched last April 2 already brought the BIR team to several key areas in Metro Manila where it found out that 95 percent of business establishments visited committed violations of various forms.

BUSINESS owner Helen Thong sits in her restaurant Taste Good in New York's Chinatown. She says her business has dropped by 50 percent due to fear of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) which is affecting tourism and business in Chinatown. AP

3 options eyed on Meralco refund

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy has identified three “feasible” methods of implementing the P28-billion refund that the Supreme Court had ordered the Manila Electric Co.

These options include a lump sum payment, conversion into consumer shares of ownership in the company, and credit on future consumption.

Non-government groups Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC), National Association of Electricity Consumers for Reforms Inc. (Nasecore), and Consumer and Oil Price Watch (COPW) yesterday presented their respective positions on the Meralco refund during a forum at the DOE.

Nasecore proposed that Meralco make a lump sum refund for the company's overcharges since 1994 as this would eliminate the added burden on Meralco of making interest payments on top of the overcharges.

According to the group's computations, Meralco's overcharges had now reached P49.7 billion, including compounded interest.

FDC, on the other hand, said the conversion of the refund into consumer shares of ownership would be more appropriate as

3 OPTIONS/ B4

2003
INTRODUCING
CHEVROLET.
2003 VENTURE LT

Travel First Class without leaving the ground.

With all the new exciting features of the 2003 Chevrolet Venture LT, you and your family can enjoy such elegant driving experience. This spruced up model comes with beige interior, wood center console, roof rails, and backing sensors. What's more, you also get the built-in VCD entertainment system. Visit your nearest GM dealer, NOW!

See the 2003 Chevrolet Venture LT at
www.generalmotors.com.ph

GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2296 Don Chino Roces Ave.,
(formerly Pasong Tamo) Makati City
Tel Nos: 867-8183 to 87 /

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel Nos 374-1250 to 59 / 413-8133
372-8001, 415-8878

GM AutoWorld SHAW
500 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel Nos 535-4944 / 535-4938
533-1263
Fax No 535-4937 / 535-4935

GM AutoWorld PAMPANGA
MacArthur Highway, Dolores,
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel Nos (045) 961-2002, (045) 860-2000
Tel/Fax No. (045) 961-2003

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov Cuenco Ave. Cebu City
Tel No (32) 234-0426
Fax No. (32) 231-7760

GM AutoWorld

Photo may vary.

Gov't to seek steady credit rating from Fitch

By Clarissa S. Batino

FINANCE Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho yesterday said the government would exert all efforts to convince UK-based Fitch Ratings to keep the Philippines' sovereign rating steady at BB plus.

Fitch officials are scheduled to visit Manila next week for a review of the country's ratings.

"We will try our best to convince Fitch that efforts to improve revenues and rein in the fiscal sector are now more sustainable given the improving collections of both the BIR and the Customs," said the finance chief in an interview.

A government source admitted that the risk of a downgrade from Fitch was greater after Standard & Poor's went ahead and downgraded the country's sovereign rating a notch lower to BB last week.

Camacho said the Macapagal administration would make sure that the economy, particularly the fiscal sector, would continue to shape up.

Unlike S&P that relied largely on numbers in making its decision last week, Fitch would be sending some of its officials to the country to witness ongoing efforts of the government, particularly the Bureau of Internal Revenue, to improve the country's tax take.

In the first quarter, the government's fiscal gap swelled to P58.9 billion, exceeding the ceiling for the period of P55.2 billion, largely on account of higher-than-programmed expenditures.

Camacho said S&P did not push through with its scheduled annual visit before coming up with "a harsh judgment" on the Philippines' performance. Revenue collection in the first quarter, he pointed out, was more than P6 billion more than the P131-billion target.

"We hope Fitch will be more patient and see first whether we can sustain the improvements we have shown so far. Since they (Fitch officials) are coming over personally, we have a better chance of telling our story," said the finance chief.

Camacho said the BIR would walk Fitch officials through its efforts to improve tax collection and reduce leakage and cheating.

April inflation seen at 2.9-3.1%

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas yesterday said a stable inflation in April, seen at between 2.9 percent and 3.1 percent, would enable monetary authorities to keep overnight rates steady.

BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the central bank's economic research department saw no extraordinary increases in the prices of major commodities in April. Thus, the forecast for the month's inflation was almost unchanged from March.

The inflation rate averaged at 2.9 percent in the first quarter.

"Given our expectations of a 2.9 percent to 3.1 percent inflation in April, the BSP can stay neutral in its monetary policy stance. This level of inflation supports our outlook down the road," said Tetangco.

The central bank had not changed its overnight borrowing rate of 7 percent and overnight lending rate of 9.25 percent since March 2002. It, however, scrapped last March 30 the tiering scheme. Since then, the BSP had been paying a flat 7 percent rate to overnight bank deposits with the BSP.

Tetangco said the quick resolution of the Middle East conflict would ease the pressure on crude prices and on local consumer prices in the months ahead.

The BSP official said the expected inflation this month was well within the government's target of an average inflation rate of 4.5 percent to 5.5 percent this year.

Tetangco said the current overnight rates of the BSP were sufficient in addressing the needs of the economy. He made this statement in reaction to recommendations from global institutions for Asian central banks to consider more cuts in interest rates to strengthen domestic economies.

The BSP had reduced its policy rates by 8 points since it peaked to 15 percent for overnight borrowing and 17.25 percent for overnight lending in 2000.

Reductions in the past, he said, were sufficient for the country to achieve a target of 4.2 percent to 5.2 percent economic growth this year. *Clarissa S. Batino*

Bankard moves to expand market share

BANKARD Inc. aims to have 500,000 new credit cards issued in the next five years from the introduction yesterday of a new credit card product designed to pirate holders of non-Bankard cards.

A joint product with JCB International, the leading credit card provider in Japan, the myDream JCB Card offers the lowest annual fees and lowest effective revolving interest rate of 2.5 percent per month.

Bankard president and chief executive officer Joven Reyes also said the publicly listed credit card firm posted P17 million in net income in the first quarter of this year, down slightly from year-ago level of P20 million after the firm set aside provisions for probable losses. Last year, Bankard posted a profit of P84 million.

Bankard Inc. presently has 270,000 credit cards in force, of which 50,000 are under the traditional silver and gold JCB brands.

For this year alone, Reyes said the credit card firm was projecting to issue 10,000 to 15,000 myDream credit cards per month or a total of 100,000 for this year. *Elena R. Torrijos*

Meralco board OKs $600M in new borrowings

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BOARD of utility giant Manila Electric Co. has approved up to $600 million in additional borrowings to refinance debts and cover other funding needs such as capital expenditures and working capital.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Meralco said its board had approved the "bonded indebtedness" for activities related to its comprehensive liability management plan.

The disclosure said the amount would cover activities such as "the provision of security to Meralco's existing unsecured creditors over assets covered by the mortgage trust indenture (MTI)."

An investment banker explained that Meralco simply approved a plan to raise additional debts and at the same time, authorize the pledge of assets in favor of existing secured creditor covered by the MTI.

MTI, which seeks to maximize the value of a borrower's properties, is an arrangement whereby a mortgagor delivers by way of mortgage a certain property to a trustee bank for the benefit of a group of lenders as collateral for a syndicated loan or bond issue.

Farm groups back GMA policy on biotechnology

INFLUENTIAL members of the agricultural sector have issued a manifesto in support of President Macapagal-Arroyo's approval of the adoption of biotechnology as an anchor of the government's food security program.

In a biotech forum held Monday at the Department of Agriculture, the group also expressed support for Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo Jr.'s call enjoining the agricultural community "to participate in democratic discussions on GMOs, particularly, Bt corn.

Among those who signed the manifesto were Felix Cordero and Rod Bioco of the Nursery Farmers Irrigators Association, the Matatag Farmers Irrigators Association and San Isidro Integrated Agro-Industrial Multipurpose Cooperative (SINAG-MPC), and the Philippine Maize Federation.

Earlier, two of the biggest agricultural groups in Mindanao, the Agricultural and Fisheries Council of General Santos City (AFC) and the Provincial Farmers Action Council in South Cotabato (PFAC), represented by Edwin Paraluman, also expressed their support for the commercialization of biotechnology-processed crops.

@business.
How 'e' do you want to be?

An IT system that's a perfect fit.
Whatever your size.

Sized just right. Priced just right. That's how flexible IBM's IT packages are. Each one developed to fit your company's specific requirements. And your budget.

Is your company big on mobility? We have just what you need. An On-The-Move Package. But if mobility is not your main concern, you may want to look into our On-The-Desk Package.

Our complete solution bundles come ready to go with value-added extras. Get software such as Lotus Notes for e-mail, Lotus SmartSuite for word processing, presentations and spreadsheets on our NetVista desktops and ThinkPad notebooks. The IBM @server xSeries 225 comes with IBM Director software for comprehensive manageability formerly only available to large companies. So you can experience the advantage of easy management systems minus the additional cost.

It gets even better. IBM offers excellent after-sales service through Authorized Service Centers nationwide.

To top it all, IBM also gives you leeway to work an IT package into your budget. It offers attractive leasing options starting from Php 25,555 per month.

With the experience and expertise of IBM, you can achieve maximum efficiency, optimum productivity and increased profitability. Whatever your company size, you'll have the complete solution to move your business forward, at prices that won't set you back.

On-The-Move Package

5 IBM ThinkPad T30
Mobile Intel® Pentium®4 processor 1.90 GHz-M
256MB RAM
20GB HDD
DVD-ROM
14.1" XGA Color Display
Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
Warranty: 3-years carry-in
FREE Lotus SmartSuite Millenium Edition,
Rapid Restore PC

1 IBM @server xSeries 225
Intel® Xeon™ processor 2.40 GHz
256MB RAM
Ultra 320 SCSI Adapter
36.4GB HDD
48XCD-ROM
ENET
15" Stealth Black Monitor
Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
Warranty: 3-years on parts and labor, 9 x 5 coverage, 4 hour response**

Lotus Notes License
Lotus Notes Domino Mail Server
with 5 Notes Licenses

Php 25,888/mo.*

On-The-Desk Package

10 IBM NetVista A30
Intel® Pentium® 4 processor 2.40 GHz
128MB RAM
40GB HDD
15" CRT Monitor
Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
Warranty: 3-years parts, 1 year labor, onsite repair
FREE Lotus SmartSuite Millenium Edition,
Norton Anti-Virus, Rapid Restore PC

1 IBM @server xSeries 225
Intel® Xeon™ processor 2.40 GHz
256MB RAM
Ultra 320 SCSI Adapter
36.4GB HDD
48XCD-ROM
ENET
15" Stealth Black Monitor
Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
Warranty: 3-years on parts and labor, 9 x 5 coverage, 4 hour response**

Lotus Notes License
Lotus Notes Domino Mail Server
with 10 Notes Licenses

Php 25,555/mo.*

Locate an IBM Business or Value Partner now:
☎ Call: 995-2426
→ Fax: 995-8246
→ E-mail: direct@ph.ibm.com

IBM

intel inside pentium 4

* For a two-year lease-to-own arrangement available through PCI Leasing and Finance Inc. Terms and conditions of financing company will apply. The packages are based on 30% guaranty deposit at fixed rate for 24 months. Prices are VAT inclusive and subject to change without prior notice.
** Within 30 kms. from nearest authorized service center.

IBM recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional for Business.

IBM Business Partners: Accent Micro Technologies Inc., American Technologies Inc., Creative Technologies Inc., LAMCO International, MSI Digiland (Phils) Inc., Ng Khai Development Corporation, Personal Computer Specialist Inc., SM Equicom Computers Inc., Technopaq Inc., Unison Computer Systems Inc.
IBM Value Partners: Advance Solutions, Inc., CMAPS Enterprises, Eco I.T. Solutions Corporation, Microcircuits Corporation, Microphase Enterprise Company, Zenshin Systems Corporation, Information Products Corporation, MG Business System, Inc., Northgate Technologies, Inc., Productivity Tech Services Inc.

IBM product names are trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation. © 2003 IBM Corp. Intel, the Intel Inside Logo, Pentium and Xeon are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. All rights reserved. Microsoft® and Windows® are registered trademarks of Microsoft® Corporation. Certain Microsoft® software product(s) included with this computer may use technological measures for copy protection. IN SUCH EVENT, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE PRODUCT IF YOU DO NOT FULLY COMPLY WITH THE PRODUCT ACTIVATION PROCEDURES. Product activation procedures and Microsoft®'s privacy policy will be detailed during the initial launch of the product, or upon certain reinstallations for the software product(s) or reconfigurations of the computer, and may be completed by Internet or telephone (toll charges may apply).

Lilia's lament

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

SEC Chair Lilia Bautista, who normally prefers to suffer in silence over unfavorable media columns/stories, sent over key documents yesterday to correct the spin that appeared in Monday's column and in other papers as well in regard to—how shall we diplomatically put it—the "maverick/menace" dilemma that the Securities and Exchange Commission is now facing.

In brief, Bautista and the three other female SEC commissioners who all now have to answer an irritating anti-graft complaint for the SEC computerization project say both the Department of Budget and Management and the National Computer Center have cleared the P38-million (not P162-million as earlier reported) project.

"We are pleased to note that the outright purchase you have made, as compared with the option of having leased the computer hardware, saved money for the government," wrote Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin in their defense.

The local dealer of Sun Microsystems won the January 2002 bidding with a P38-million bid, as against the P62 million submitted by Fujitsu and the P59 million of PhilBizInfo.

As to the legal question raised by Fr. Joaquin Bernas on the issue of pre-selection of candidates to the Philippine Stock Exchange, the SEC position is that the Securities Regulation Code had effectively amended the Corporation Code in the light of the PSE's self-regulatory status.

In any case, there is a pending court case brought by the camp of Robert Coyiuto Jr. precisely for the judiciary to decide the legality of the pre-selection issue once and for all.

Call collect

IN case you have not noticed it, the local Citibank has shut down its toll free 1-800 line in the United States since April Fools' Day, a service that in the past enabled local credit card holders traveling in the US to talk to a local Citibank officer for any credit card inquiries.

Apparently, the move is part of the cost-cutting measures the profitable American financial giant is undertaking. Besides, the pertinent credit card information like credit balance may now be accessed 24/7 through the Internet.

In case of an emergency like a lost/stolen card, the cardholder may place a collect call to the 24-hour local Citibank line, with the American operator originating the call hopefully managing to navigate through the computerized voice prompts to reach a live person before irritation sets in.

Short takes

- Former Transportation and Communication Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez is taking refresher guitar lessons at the RJ Music School before plunging into the daily campaign grind to reclaim his old congressional seat.
- The Davao Apo View Hotel will likely file a rehabilitation proposal with the local court following the rejection by creditor Banco Filipino of the hotel's debt-to-equity swap proposal.

Heard through the grapevine

THE FATHER and sons Velhagen who used to work for billionaire polo player Albert "Bobby" Aguirre have all signed damaging affidavits against their former principal, with the father, a La Salle classmate of Bobby, executing the statement all the way in Vancouver before a Philippine consular officer.

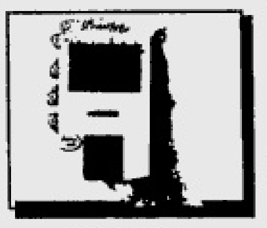
Former Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III, now based in San Diego, California, as a hotel executive, has also expressed willingness to sign a similar statement.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

DOUBLE CHECK

DIABETES

(SIMPLY AND ACCURATELY)



PRESTIGE GLUCOSE METER

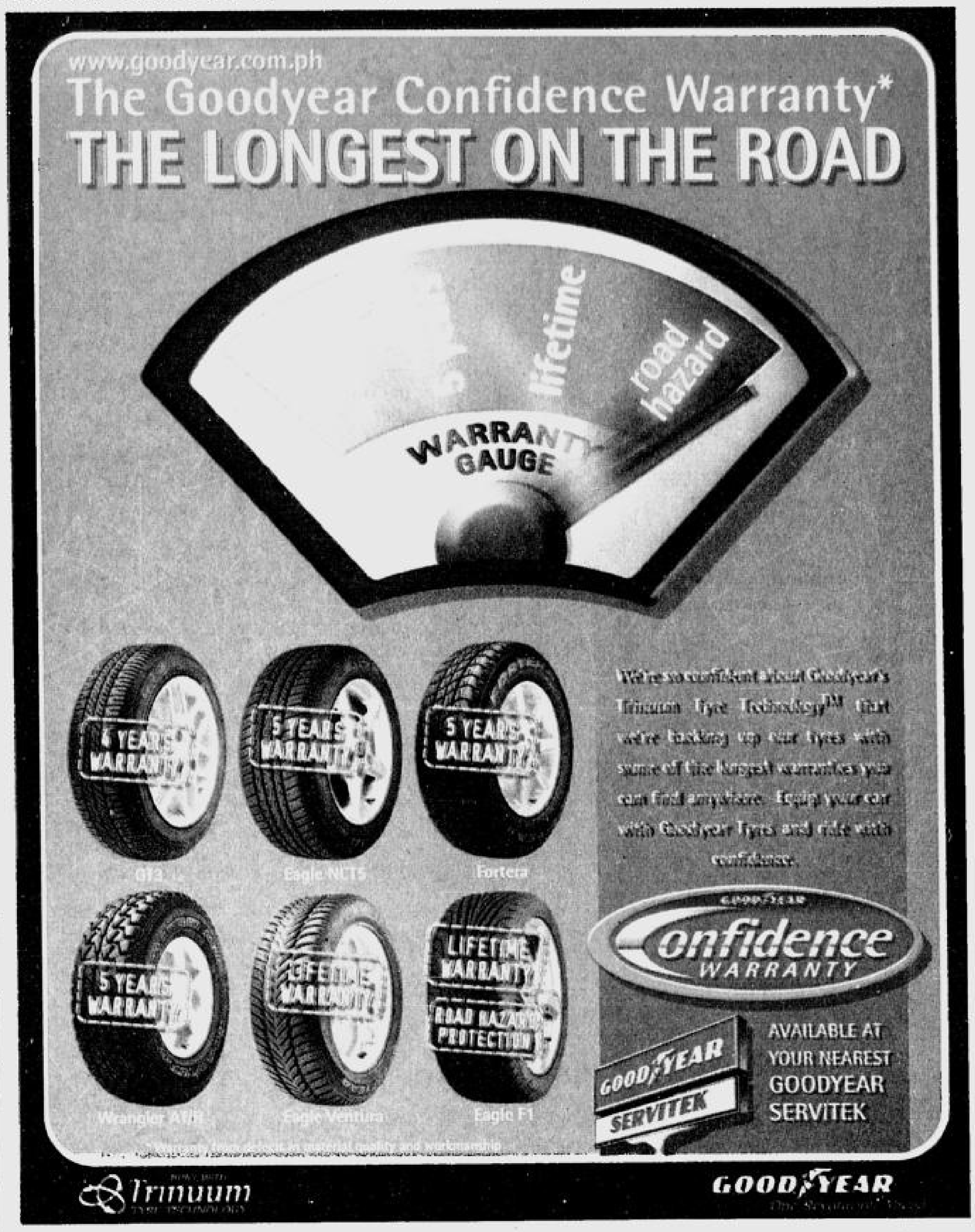
- Blood Glucose Monitoring System
- Reads MMOL/L or MG/DL
- Easy To Operate

STAR MILLS PAMPANGA
2nd Flr. (45) 636-3513

SM MANILA
5TH FLR. 484-1471

FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36	SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418 75-40	SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453 3326
CEBU 262-32-39	SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800 40 93	ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635 5061



We're so confident about Goodyear's Trinuum Tyre Technology™ that we're backing up our tyres with some of the longest warranties you can find anywhere. Equip your car with Goodyear Tyres and ride with confidence.

AVAILABLE AT YOUR NEAREST GOODYEAR SERVITEK

*Warranty from defects in material quality and workmanship

How can you dream of something that won't let you sleep?

Autohaus BMW (formerly Prestige Cars Libis) 184 E. Rodriguez, Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City Tel. (02) 638 0734 Fax (02) 438 0419 • **Prestige Cars Makati, Inc.** 2324 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City Tel. (02) 892 8127 / Fax (02) 816 7325 • **PGA Cars, Inc.** 201 EDSA, Mandaluyong City Tel. (02) 727 0381 / Fax (02) 727 0390 • **Performance Auto Motor Group, Inc.** Magallanes St. corner P. Burgos St., Cebu City Tel. (032) 256 3491 / Fax (032) 256 3492 • **Pampanga Premier Cars, Inc.** Interim Showroom, along Olongapo-Gapan Road, City of San Fernando, Pampanga Tel. (045) 963 7777 / Fax (045) 963 3355

The BMW Z4. The sum of all the senses.

BMW Z4
2.5i

www.bmw.com.ph

Sheer Driving Pleasure

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Tuesday, April 29, 2003)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	15.75	16	15.75	15.75	50,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	35.5	36	35.5	36	296,000
China Banking Corp.	660	660	660	660	60
Citystate Savings Bank	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	23.75	23.75	23.75	23.75	171,600
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27	27.5	27	27.5	53,100
Prudential Bank	450	450	450	450	4,130
Philippine National Bank	24	24	24	24	18,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	3,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	17	17	17	17	5,800
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	670,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1320	1330	1320	1330	1,240
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1030	1050	1030	1050	3,150
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp	12	12	11.75	11.75	46,900
Digital Telecom Phils Inc	0.68	0.75	0.68	0.73	11,880,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	525	535	525	535	36,300
ISM Communications Corp.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	1,500,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	150,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp	3	3	3	3	10,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.31	5,330,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	375	375	367.5	367.5	14,270
Ivantage Corp.	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	10,000
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	5,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.7	195,000
Manila Electric Co. B	10	10	9.7	9.7	547,000
Petron Corp.	1.9	1.96	1.9	1.96	2,223,000
Trans-Asia Oil And Energy	0.93	0.94	0.93	0.94	250,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	5,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42	73,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.55	0.58	0.55	0.56	2,410,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	17,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	9,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	16	16.25	16	16.25	127,000
La Tondena Distillers,Inc	32	32	32	32	26,000
RFM Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.69	0.7	290,000
San Miguel Corp. A	56.5	56.5	55.5	56	48,900
San Miguel Corp. B	66	66	65.5	66	12,700
Universal Robina Corp.	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	220,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	3.95	4.05	3.95	4	2,844,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.34	2.34	2.3	2.3	55,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.026	300,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.49	0.5	0.49	0.5	2,440,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	1,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	5,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.18	0.195	0.18	0.185	8,710,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	100,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.245	0.25	0.245	0.245	1,280,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp	8	8	7.9	7.9	40,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.08	0.0825	0.08	0.0825	300,000
J.G. Summit Holdings, Inc	1.5	1.54	1.5	1.54	19,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	1,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	310,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.175	0.18	0.175	0.18	2,250,000
Music Corp.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	370,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	13,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp	0.033	0.033	0.033	0.033	400,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	170,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.35	0.38	0.35	0.38	740,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	73,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	1.98	2	1.86	1.96	392,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	16.5	16.75	16.5	16.75	85,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	3900	.42	.38	.42	6,540,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	11.75	11.75	11.25	11.25	440,100
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10	10	10	10	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10	10	10	10	6,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10	10	10	10	7,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10	10	10	10	4,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10	10	10	10	3,000
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	10,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.9	4.95	4.9	4.95	4,899,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	360,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.205	0.21	0.205	0.205	950,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.17	0.175	0.165	0.165	2,560,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	0.87	0.88	0.85	0.85	14,590,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	200,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	4.6	4.75	4.6	4.65	13,138,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	2,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	3,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.19	0.19	0.19	.19?	100,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	500,000
Omico Corp.	0.0042	0.0044	0.0042	0.0044	50,000,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.003	0.0032	0.003	.0032?	7,000,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.15	0.15	0.15	.15?	50,000

DISCLOSURES

METRO Pacific Corp. moved its annual stockholders' meeting from June 10 to June 20 with record date on May 15.

* * *

BANK of the Philippine Islands declared a special cash dividend of P1 per share in favor of stockholders of record as of May 13 and will be payable on May 28.

* * *

ELECTED directors of SM Prime Holdings Inc. are Henry Sy Sr., Jose Cuisia Jr., Senen Mendiola, Teresita Sy, Henry Sy Jr., Herbert Sy and Hans Sy. The company also declared a regular cash dividend of P0.10 per share and a special cash dividend of P0.025 per share for all stockholders of record as of May 28 and will be payable on or before June 15.

* * *

CITY & Land Developers Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 10 with record date on May 11. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

April 29, 2003 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.910581	1.000000	52.983000
Japan	Yen	0.007561	0.008303	0.439900
United Kingdom	Pound	1.446094	1.588100	84.142300
Hongkong	Dollar	0.116759	0.128225	6.793700
Switzerland	Franc	0.663883	0.729076	38.628600
Canada	Dollar	0.629376	0.691181	36.620800
Singapore	Dollar	0.512138	0.562430	29.799200
Australia	Dollar	0.563757	0.619118	32.802700
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.415526	2.652731	140.549600
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.242828	0.266674	14.129200
Brunei	Dollar	0.510701	0.560852	29.715600
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000104	0.000114	0.006000
Thailand	Baht	0.021216	0.023299	1.234500
UAE	Dirham	0.247932	0.272279	14.426200
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.098200	58.185900
Argentina	Peso	0.318385	0.349650	18.525500
Brazil	REAL	0.304542	0.334448	17.720100
Denmark	Kroner	0.134689	0.147916	7.837000
India	Rupee	0.019272	0.021164	1.121300
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.239659	0.263193	13.944800
Mexico	New Peso	0.087826	0.096451	5.110300
New Zealand	Dollar	0.506553	0.556297	29.474300
Norway	Kroner	0.129008	0.141677	7.506500
Pakistan	Rupee	0.015795	0.017346	0.919000
South Africa	Rand	0.127664	0.140201	7.428300
Korea	Won	0.000746	0.000819	0.043400
Sweden	Kroner	0.109211	0.119936	6.354600
Syria	Pound	0.021681	0.023810	1.261500
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.026106	0.028670	1.519000
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000571	0.000627	0.033200

INTEREST RATES

April 29, 2003—MART1Rates

SOURCE : MART/BLOOMBERG

Benchmark Interest Rates	MART1 29-Apr-03 (%)	MART1 28-Apr-03 (%)
1 Month	7.8938	8.4135
3 Months	8.2045	8.5031
6 Months	8.9712	9.275
1 Year	9.6731	9.7115
2 Years	10.2981	10.3385
3 Years	11.1058	11.1981
4 Years	11.6961	11.9327
5 Years	11.9692	12.1942
7 Years	12.8271	12.9058
10 Years	13.0846	13.1442
20 Years	13.5673	13.6904
25 Years	14.0846	14.1769

Canadian acquires oil-drilling firm

By Doris C. Dumlao

CANADA-BASED Tracer Petroleum Corp. is set to acquire a controlling stake in Forum Exploration Inc., a subsidiary of publicly listed Forum Pacific Inc., through a share-swap deal worth about $10 million.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, FPI said it had approved the purchase by the Canadian oil firm of 125 million shares in its subsidiary.

This translates to the takeover of about 66 percent interest in Forum Exploration in exchange for 100 million Tracer shares at a deemed value of $0.10 per share. Forum Pacific will keep the remaining 34 percent in the subsidiary.

The exploration unit has full control of two contract areas in the Philippines, including the Geophysical Survey and Exploration Contract (GSEC) which covers Manila Bay and a portion of the contiguous landward area of Luzon Island, including most of the area of Metro Manila.

This GSEC expired in 2000 but Forum has recently applied for another GSEC area which includes the Manila Bay area previously covered, plus an additional area on land in a strip extending northward from the bay and beyond Lingayen Gulf.

The second contract area is known as SC 40, which covers the northern half of Cebu Island plus part of the Visayan Sea offshore to the west of the island.

Several exploration prospects and leads have been identified by Forum within the service contract area, both onshore Cebu, and offshore in the Visayan Sea. A small gas field has been discovered and appraised in onshore Cebu.

Based on an evaluation by PGS Reservoir Consultants (UK) Ltd., an independent consultancy specializing in petroleum reservoir evaluation and economic analysis, there was an expected value of net cash flow of $51.23 million for the interests and an optimistic value of net cash flow of $485 million.

3 options eyed . . .

From page B1

Meralco was currently not in a financial position to make a full P28-billion refund.

"Converting the amount into shares will not involve any cash outlay for the company. The P28-billion worth of stocks can be sourced from Meralco's unappropriated and appropriated retained earnings amounting to P27.9 billion and the asset appraisal increment of P25.6 billion," the group said in its position paper.

COPW chair Raul Concepcion, on the other hand, suggested an immediate refund for customers consuming 300 kilowatts per hour of electricity or less per month as this segment represented about 77 percent of the company's customer base and 18 percent of total energy sales.

For those consuming more than 300 kWh of electricity a month, "a compromise settlement that would have the least impact on the financial viability of Meralco" should be forged.

Bagong Alyansang Makabayan spokesperson Renato Reyes agreed with Concepcion and said an immediate refund should first be given to the residential customers before talking about stock options and refunds for the bigger consumers.

Credit on future consumption was also suggested during the forum, which will mean a rate reduction on monthly consumption equivalent to the same amount that a consumer should get in refunds.

The DOE is set to submit its position on the Meralco refund to the Energy Regulatory Commission in two weeks.

Country Bankers Life Insurance Corporation

Wishes to inform its **stakeholders** of the newly elected directors during its Annual Stockholders Meeting held at its principal office at the Country Bankers Centre located at 648 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila, to wit:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Consunji, David M.
Desiderio, Caridad S.
Desiderio, Gloria G.
Dolor, Soledad L.
Guingona, Ma. Victoria G.
Locsin, Dennis H.
Macrohon, Ignacio Jr. A.
Montelibano, Roberto L.
Montelibano, Rodolfo L.
Muñoz, Agnes D.
Naguiat, Antolin T.
Petines, Romulo A.
Reyes, Juan Miguel Procopio S.
Valdez, Remedios V.
Velasquez, Romeo G.

And in its organizational meeting held immediately thereafter, the following Executive Officers were duly elected:

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Chairman — Roberto L. Montelibano
Vice-Chairwoman — Ma. Victoria G. Guingona
President — Ignacio A. Macrohon, Jr.
Executive Vice-President — Agnes D. Muñoz
Vice-President, Operations — Dolly R. Mari
Treasurer — Antolin T. Naguiat
Corporate Secretary — Romeo G. Velasquez

RELIABILITY...
Our Continuing Commitment

Country Bankers Insurance Corporation

Wishes to inform its **stakeholders** of the newly elected directors during its Annual Stockholders Meeting held at its principal office at the Country Bankers Centre located at 648 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila, to wit:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Consunji, David M.
Desiderio, Caridad S.
Desiderio, Gloria G.
Dolor, Soledad L.
Guingona, Ma. Victoria G.
Locsin, Dennis H.
Macrohon, Ignacio Jr. A.
Montelibano, Roberto L.
Muñoz, Agnes D..
Naguiat, Antolin T.
Naguiat, Carmelo T.
Petines, Romulo A.
Reyes, Juan Miguel Procopio S.
Valdez, Remedios V.
Velasquez, Romeo G.

And in its organizational meeting held immediately thereafter, the following Executive Officers were duly elected:

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Chairman — Roberto L. Montelibano
Vice-Chairwoman — Ma. Victoria G. Guingona
President — Ignacio A. Macrohon, Jr.
Executive Vice-President — Agnes D. Muñoz
Treasurer — Antolin T. Naguiat
Senior Vice-President & General Manager — Servillano C. Mendoza
First Vice-President — Romeo G. Velasquez
Corporate Secretary — Rizal Antonio D. Meru

Service with INTEGRITY and RESPONSIVENESS

Banco Filipino disputes charges

By Elena R. Torrijos

BANCO Filipino yesterday refuted allegations that the bank engaged in a common pattern of extending loans to borrower firms controlled by bank vice chair Albert Aguirre.

The INQUIRER reported Tuesday that the sister of Aguirre filed a complaint with the Monetary Board, the policy-making body of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, asking that the monetary authority place the thrift bank's board under investigation and preventive suspension for alleged unsound banking practices that violated the country's banking laws.

In a letter to the INQUIRER, Banco Filipino executive vice president and corporate secretary Francisco Rivera pointed out that Aguirre was neither a stockholder nor a director or officer of nine borrower-firms which got P1.6 billion from Banco Filipino.

In the complaint filed on behalf of clients Anna Maria Aguirre-Koruga and Christopher Koruga, lawyer Jose Bernas said the nine firms were controlled indirectly by Aguirre through close associates, friends and their relatives.

Banco Filipino maintained that the P1.6 billion in loans granted to the nine firms were "in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations and the tenets of sound banking practices."

Rivera also claimed that the bank's loans were fully secured with real estate and were appraised by duly licensed and independent appraisers.

He said the Las Piñas property cited in the complaint of having a value of only P15,000 per sq. m. was in fact a commercial property the adjoining lots of which were reportedly sold by their owners at P50,000 to P60,000 per sq. m.

Also, of the nine loans, only six were actually extended and out of the six, five have been fully paid, he said. "The remaining loan is in the process of liquidation."

Also, Rivera claimed that the officers who had executed affidavits on alleged borrowing schemes of Banco Filipino were "former officers of some of the borrowing companies who were fired from their positions for dishonesty."

SM Prime keen on Fort Boni property

PUBLICLY listed SM Prime Holdings of retail magnate Henry Sy is eyeing a property owned by the state-owned Bases Conversion and Development Authority in Fort Bonifacio for a mall development project.

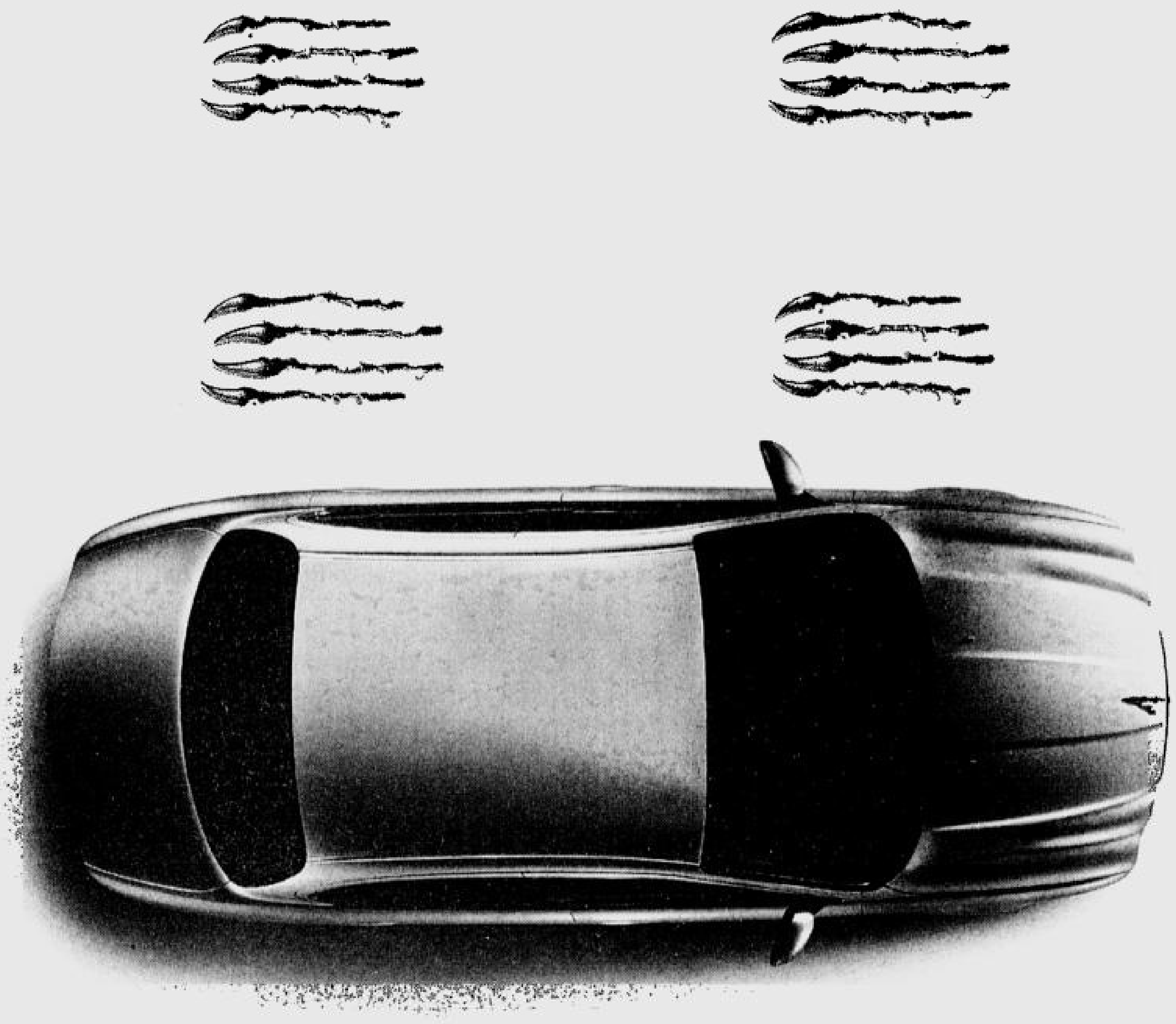
In an interview yesterday, SM Prime executive vice president Henry Sy Jr. said that SM Prime was waiting for the BCDA to issue the terms of reference for the sale or lease of that property in Fort Bonifacio.

Typically, Sy said, SM Prime needed five to ten hectares of land for a mall. "Fortunately, BCDA has a property suited for this purpose."

"We hope the BCDA will let people bid (for its pieces of property in Fort Bonifacio)," he said.

Sy said SM Prime neither had approached nor had been approached by Fort Bonifacio Development Corp., now largely owned by the Ayala and Campos groups, for any property sale.

The Ayala group itself, through its Ayala Land Inc., is a competitor of SM Prime in the field of mall development and operation in key cities nationwide. *Elena R. Torrijos*



The Jaguar X-TYPE with Traction 4 AWD. It Grips.

X-TYPE Ownership begins at **P 2.1M**
Finance packages start at **P 27,500/mo.***
*P 27,500 net monthly amortization for 60 months on V6 X-Type 2.0 Classic model with SRP of P2,100,000 and 50% DP. Subject to credit approval.

X-TYPE The art of performance | JAGUAR

Jaguar Makati: ENZO Bldg., 399 Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, Tel. 897-8888, E-mail. sales@jaguar.com.ph
Jaguar Ortigas: 88 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Tel. 633-0185, E-mail. sales@jaguar.com.ph
Jaguar Service: 3904 Quingua St.(near EDSA /Buendia), Makati City, Tel. 881-7252; E-mail. service_ctr@jaguar.com.ph

BASTA SHELL RIMULA
RBGEES
TRUCKING
SIGURADO ANG DELIVERY!

ARGEE DE GUZMAN
Operator, RBGEES Trucking

RIMULA
RIMULA
RIMULA

Shell Rimula, ang premium heavy duty oil na sadyang gawa para sa diesel engine. Tamang-tama ang lapot kaya kayang abutin at protektahan hanggang kaloob-looban ng makina. Alam mong sigurado ang delivery kaya garantisado ang kita. Walang kakaba-kaba. Sige, subukan mo!

Shell Rimula. For longer oil life. Longer engine life.

Best for: ● ● ● ● ● ●

ATTENTION:

MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERS AND
PRIVATE EMISSION TESTING CENTER (PETC) OPERATORS

Pursuant to Republic Act 8749 *(The Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999)* and Its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), a motor vehicle should first be tested for smoke emission at a Private Emission Testing Center (PETC) authorized by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) before it can be registered. An emission certificate, called Certificate of Emission Compliance (CEC), is issued to the motor vehicle that passed the emission test.

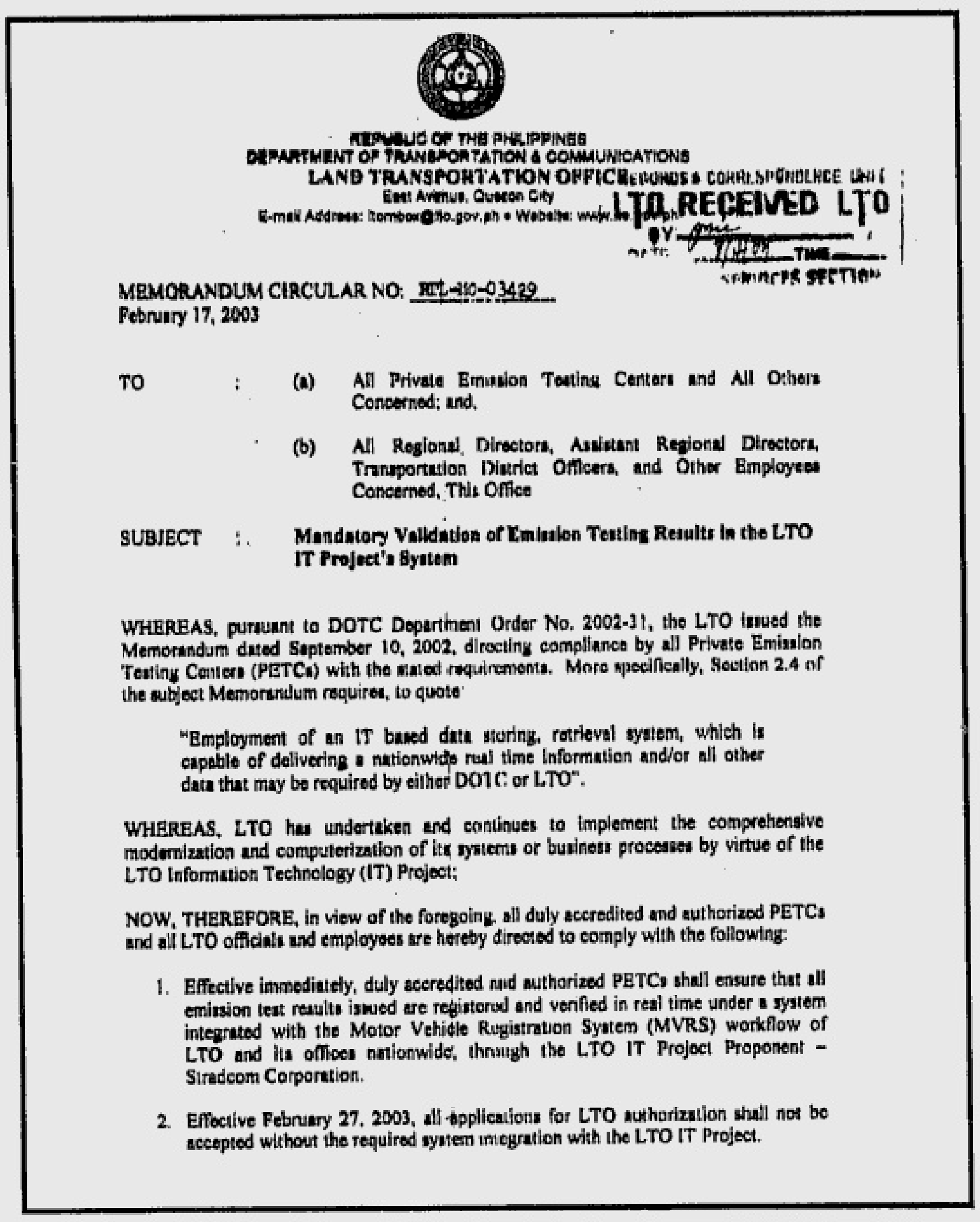
The problem is some emission certificates are either fake or unauthorized.

To stop the issuance of fake/unauthorized emission certificates, the LTO, pursuant to the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) Order No. 2002-31 *(Authorization of Private Emission Testing Centers)*, issued a Memorandum dated September 10, 2002 *(Procedure for Authorization of Private Emission Testing Center)*, directing all PETCs to comply with the requirements therein, more specifically stated under Section 2.4 to wit:

> **"Employment of an IT based data storing, retrieval system, which is capable of delivering a nationwide real time information and/or all other data that may be required by either DOTC or LTO."**

On February 17, 2003, the LTO issued Memorandum Circular (MC) No. RTL-MC-03429 *(Mandatory Validation of Emission Testing Results in the LTO-IT Project's System)*. The MC directs all duly accredited and authorized PETCs to ensure that **all emission test results that they issue are officially registered and verified online, in real time through a facility that is integrated with the Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS) workflow of the LTO and its offices nationwide, through the LTO-Information Technology (LTO-IT) Project proponent.**

The MC also directs that **all PETC applications for LTO authorization shall not be accepted without the required system integration with the LTO-IT Project.**



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail Address: ltombox@lto.gov.ph • Website: www.

RECORDS & CORRESPONDENCE UNIT
LTO RECEIVED LTO
BY
DATE TIME

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO: RTL-MC-03429
February 17, 2003

TO : (a) All Private Emission Testing Centers and All Others Concerned; and,

(b) All Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Transportation District Officers, and Other Employees Concerned, This Office

SUBJECT : **Mandatory Validation of Emission Testing Results in the LTO IT Project's System**

WHEREAS, pursuant to DOTC Department Order No. 2002-31, the LTO issued the Memorandum dated September 10, 2002, directing compliance by all Private Emission Testing Centers (PETCs) with the stated requirements. More specifically, Section 2.4 of the subject Memorandum requires, to quote

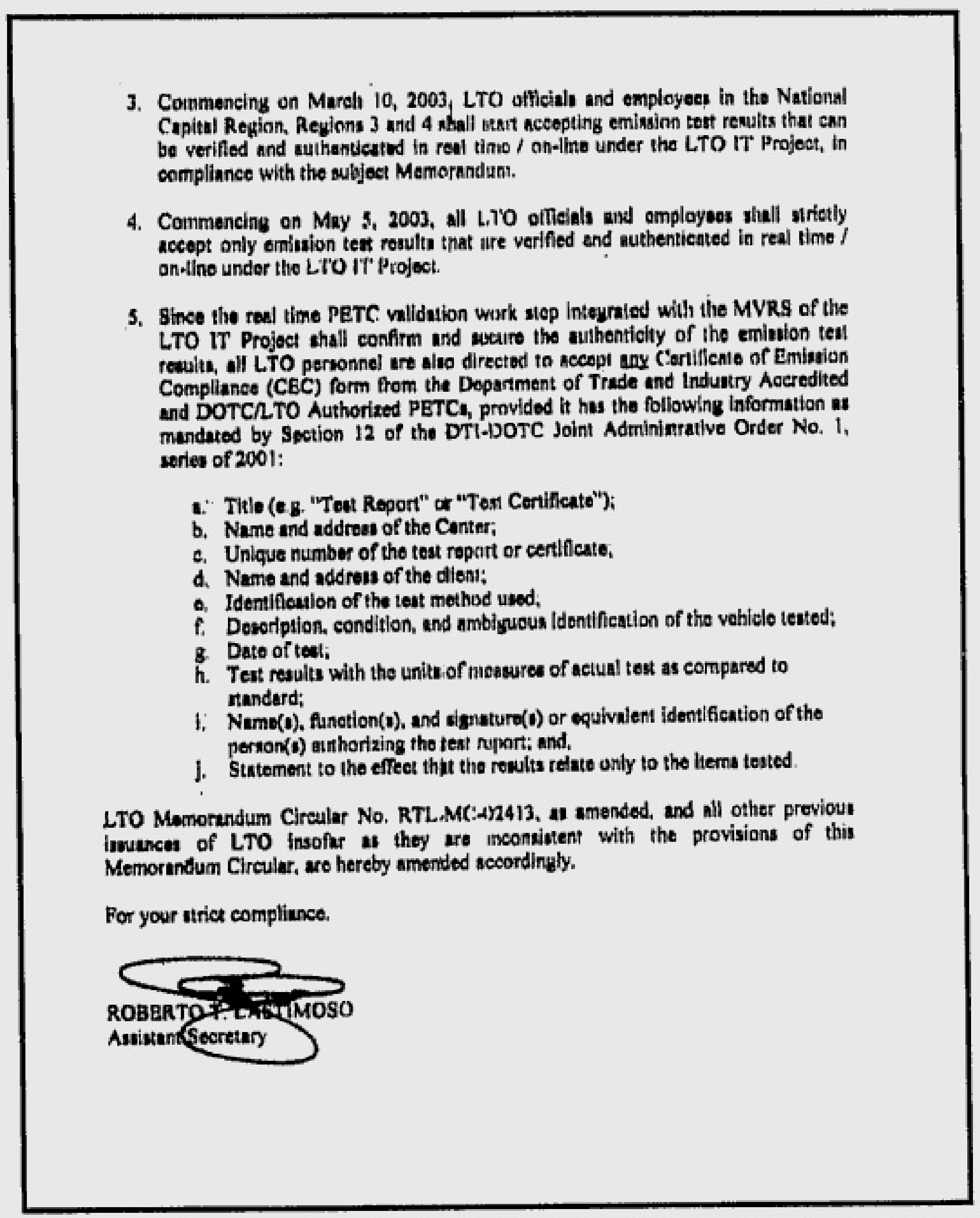
> "Employment of an IT based data storing, retrieval system, which is capable of delivering a nationwide real time information and/or all other data that may be required by either DOTC or LTO".

WHEREAS, LTO has undertaken and continues to implement the comprehensive modernization and computerization of its systems or business processes by virtue of the LTO Information Technology (IT) Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, in view of the foregoing, all duly accredited and authorized PETCs and all LTO officials and employees are hereby directed to comply with the following:

1. Effective immediately, duly accredited and authorized PETCs shall ensure that all emission test results issued are registered and verified in real time under a system integrated with the Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS) workflow of LTO and its offices nationwide, through the LTO IT Project Proponent – Stradcom Corporation.

2. Effective February 27, 2003, all applications for LTO authorization shall not be accepted without the required system integration with the LTO IT Project.



3. Commencing on March 10, 2003, LTO officials and employees in the National Capital Region, Regions 3 and 4 shall start accepting emission test results that can be verified and authenticated in real time / on-line under the LTO IT Project, in compliance with the subject Memorandum.

4. Commencing on May 5, 2003, all LTO officials and employees shall strictly accept only emission test results that are verified and authenticated in real time / on-line under the LTO IT Project.

5. Since the real time PETC validation work step integrated with the MVRS of the LTO IT Project shall confirm and secure the authenticity of the emission test results, all LTO personnel are also directed to accept any Certificate of Emission Compliance (CEC) form from the Department of Trade and Industry Accredited and DOTC/LTO Authorized PETCs, provided it has the following information as mandated by Section 12 of the DTI-DOTC Joint Administrative Order No. 1, series of 2001:

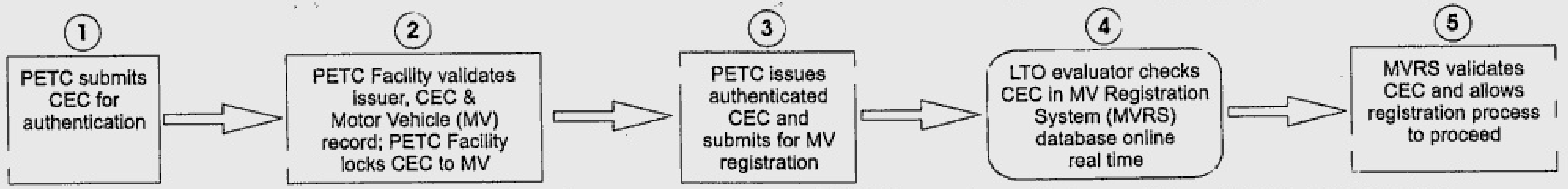
   a. Title (e.g. "Test Report" or "Test Certificate");
   b. Name and address of the Center;
   c. Unique number of the test report or certificate,
   d. Name and address of the client;
   e. Identification of the test method used,
   f. Description, condition, and ambiguous identification of the vehicle tested;
   g. Date of test;
   h. Test results with the units of measures of actual test as compared to standard;
   i. Name(s), function(s), and signature(s) or equivalent identification of the person(s) authorizing the test report; and,
   j. Statement to the effect that the results relate only to the items tested.

LTO Memorandum Circular No. RTL-MC-02413, as amended, and all other previous issuances of LTO insofar as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Memorandum Circular, are hereby amended accordingly.

For your strict compliance.

ROBERTO T. LASTIMOSO
Assistant Secretary

LTO-IT PETC Facility



① PETC submits CEC for authentication

② PETC Facility validates issuer, CEC & Motor Vehicle (MV) record; PETC Facility locks CEC to MV

③ PETC issues authenticated CEC and submits for MV registration

④ LTO evaluator checks CEC in MV Registration System (MVRS) database online real time

⑤ MVRS validates CEC and allows registration process to proceed

This facility is fully automated and ensures only one CEC for each vehicle registered thus eliminating fake/unauthorized CECs.

Starting MAY 5, 2003, the LTO will strictly accept only emission certificates that can be verified and authenticated online, in real time, through the LTO-IT System.

Avoid inconvenience when you register your motor vehicle. Make sure that your emission certificates are officially authenticated by the LTO-IT System. For your protection and peace of mind, your motor vehicle should be tested at the following PETCs linked to the LTO-IT System:

1. **ABG Motor Vehicle Emission Testing and Car Care Center Co.**
665 Quirino Highway Cor. Urbano St. Bagbag, Q.C.
Tel. No. 921-7917
2. **Automall Philippines Corporation**
2290 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Tel. No. 892-6757
3. **Extramile Tire and Car Care Center, Inc.**
Extramile Bldg. Commonwealth, Q.C.
Tel. Nos. 932-9028 to 29
4. **KGM Emission Testing Center**
Navotas Fishport Complex, N. Bay Blvd. Navotas, M.M.
Tel. No. 288-5769
5. **Mancor Industries Inc.**
42 E Rodriguez Ave., Q.C.
Tel. No. 723-3028
6. **Rañeva Enterprise**
Gov. Pascual, Malabon, M.M.
Tel. No. 447-1681
7. **Techno Equipment Sales and Services, Inc.**
1329 Diokno St. Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel No. 433-0841
8. **GHQ Emission Testing Center Inc.**
16th St., cor 505 Quirino Avenue
Tel. No. Paranaque City
9. **MSSB Emission Testing Center**
Ulingao, San Rafael, Bulacan
Tel No. (044) 665-0547
10. **MSSB Emission Testing Center**
Tenejero, Balanga City
Mobile No 0917-5171625
11. **OMNI Automotive System**
Gov. F. Halili Ave., Bagbaguin, Sta. Maria, Bulacan
Tel No. (044) 641-1867
12. **RSL Emission Testing Center**
DRT Highway, Ulingao, San Rafael, Bulacan
Mobile No. 0917-7458864
13. **Vehicle Inspection and Testing Corporation**
Bldg. 15 SRF Area, Subic Bay Freeport Zone Authority
Tel No. (047) 252-3012
14. **W-Priest House Emission Testing Center**
MacArthur Highway, Bancal, Meycauyan, Bulacan
Tel. No. (044) 695-0136
15. **GOLDMEMBER Emission Testing Center, Inc.**
Tanzang Luma, Imus, Cavite
Mobile No. 0916-5773282
16. **Lucena Grand Service Station Emission**
Ilayang Dupay, Diversion Rd., Lucena City
Tel. No. 042-373-6460
17. **St. Clare Emission Testing Center**
Rose Park Co., Sto. Domingo
Tel. No. 248-0323
18. **Transtech Emission Testing and Services Center Co.**
Kumintang Ibaba, Batangas City
Tel. No. (043) 723-4438
19. **W-RED Emission Testing Center**
Reveal Subd. Brgy. Real 1, Bacoor, Cavite
Tel. Nos. 372-2778, 413-01096
20. **Labag Emission Testing Center**
National Highway, Apopong Gen. Santos City, South Cotabato

FOR LTO AUTHORIZATION:
1. **Honda Cars Kalookan, Inc.**
598 EDSA, Balintawak, Kalookan City
Tel. No 366-5701 to 24
2. **Honda Cars Makati, Inc.**
Shaw Blvd. cor. Pilar St., Mandaluyong City
Tel. No 717-1681
3. **Honda Cars Makati, Makati**
Magallanes Commercial Center, South
Tel Nos 852-6727
4. **Honda Cars Makati (Alabang Branch)**
Alabang Zapote Rd. cor. Investment Drive, Muntinlupa
Tel. No 807-7889
5. **Honda Cars, Quezon City**
141 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. No 781-8169
6. **Wealth Emissions Testing Center**
Gov. Pascual Ave., Crispin St., Tenejeros, Malabon
7. **Wheels, Inc.**
602 Tuayan St cor., Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel No. 743-6707
8. **DRTDIN Emission Testing Center**
72 Shorthorn St., Project 8, Quezon City

9. **AM Pacleb Enterprise Inc.**
195 A. Tuazon New Marikina Subd., Sta. Elena, Marikina City
10. **Health Conscious Management & General Services**
52-D Sto. Domingo cor. Retiro St., Quezon City
11. **Primero Emission Testing Center**
Lachica St., Urdaneta City, Pangasinan
Mobile. No. 0919-2295447
12. **Pangasinan Emission Testing Center**
Anolid Mangaldan, Pangasinan
13. **JOC Smoke Emission Testing Center**
Caranglaan District, Dagupan City
14. **RDIJ Emission Testing Center**
RDIJ Megastar Caltex Service Station, Tuguegarao City
Tel No. (078) 844-1930
15. **Freeway Motor Sales Inc.**
Dona Remedios, Tarcan Highway, Baliuag, Bulacan
Tel. No. (044) 463-8390
16. **X-Zone Private Emission Testing**
Daang Sarili, Maharlika Highway, Cabanatuan City
Tel No. (044) 600-3963
17. **Bagmet Vehicle Emission Testing Center**
Tinga, Labac, Batangas City
Tel. No. (043) 300-4128

SOON TO CONNECT:
1. **Tower Emission Test Center Co.**
Jomon Bldg Brixton St., Bo Kapitolyo, Pasig City
Tel No. 453-76592
2. **Boher Emission Test Center**
Maysilo St. Mandaluyong City
Tel No 533-082
3. **Royjule Emission Center Co.**
253 Boni Serrano Ave., San Roque, Q.C.
4. **Royjule Emission Test**
370 Mayon St. Q.C.
Tel No 632-9097
5. **Royjule Emission Testing Center**
Novaliches, Q.C.
6. **JoAngela Emission Center**
Gov. Pascual Ave., Malabon
Mobile No 0916-422722
7. **Remigayle Emission Test Co.**
Bgy San Vicente, Alaminos, Pangasinan
Mobile No. 09196815212
8. **Remigayle Emission Test Co.**
Alvear St. East, Libsong West, Lingayen, Pangasinan
Mobile No. 0916-4262366
9. **Nelcor Emission Center Co.**
409 MacArthur Highway, Valenzuela
10. **Maple Emission Test Center**
Blk. 1 Lot 7 & 8, Soldier's Hills, Bgy. Putatan, Muntinlupa
Tel No. 838-8494
11. **Maple Emission Testing Center**
Taguig
12. **Estar Emission Test Center Co.**
Burgos St. Paniqui, Tarlac
Mobile No. 0919-5352442
13. **Estar Emission Test Center Co.**
Macabulos Drive, San Roque, Tarlac
Mobile No 0919-5352442
14. **Deville Emission Test Center**
Perpetual Heights, Apalit, San Simon, Pampanga
Mobile No 0916-4600586
15. **Deville Emission Test Center**
Pilar Village, Bgy San Isidro, San Fernando, Pampanga
Mobile No 0916-4600586
16. **Serville Emission Test Center**
MacArthur Highway, Meycauayan, Bulacan
Mobile No 0916-4988139
17. **Aveena Emision Test Center Co.**
9 East Guido St., San Roque, Angono, Rizal
Mobile No 0916-5941709
18. **Pinra Emission Test Center**
Bgy Dambalelos, Balayan, Batangas
Tel No (043) 921-3890
19. **Pinra Emission Test Center**
Calapan, Mindoro
20. **Pinra Emission Test Center**
San Jose, Mindoro
21. **Allcor Emission Test Center**
Bgy Marawoy, Lipa City
Mobile No 0919-5873807
22. **Upland Emission Test Center**
Manalo St., Bgy Maskap, Puerto Princesa, Palawan
Mobile No. 0918-8519368
23. **Lottex, Inc.**
Rizal Ave., Bgy San Isidro, Taytay, Rizal
Tel No 656-6658

NOTE: More PETCs will connect very soon

PROMOTE A POLLUTION-FREE ENVIRONMENT. STOP THE ISSUANCE OF FAKE AND UNAUTHORIZED EMISSION CERTIFICATES.

PETC HOTLINES: 922-0301 LOCALS 307, 315, 341, 342 & 372

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Congress wants AUV tax perks to remain

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

SENATORS are threatening to stall the passage of the proposed reforms in automotive taxes unless the government agrees to maintain the tax incentives granted to Asian utility vehicles.

In a statement, Sen. Sergio Osmeña III, chair of the committee on banks and financial institutions, said AUVs worth up to P700,000 should retain their tax-exempt status because they have the highest local content among vehicle models (at least 40 percent) that would benefit local automotive parts makers.

AUVs are currently exempted from excise taxes because they have a seating capacity for at least 10 people. However, if the automotive tax reforms were passed in Congress, the AUVs would pay an average of 15 percent excise tax, which would push their sticker price closer to P1 million or beyond the reach of the target market.

In the face of vigorous opposition by Osmeña and other senators, the approval of the state-backed Senate Bill No. 2157 is likely to take longer than expected which could force the government to withdraw the automotive tax reforms.

Citystate Savings Bank, Inc.

709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City

Statement of Condition As of March 26, 2003

ASSETS		AMOUNT:
Cash & Cashitems	P	23,708,004 64
Due From Bangko Sentral		15,115,740 95
Due From Other Banks		30,524,740 14
Interbank Loans Receivable		300,000,000.00
Loans, Discounts & Advances(Net)		428,332,447 77
Available for Sale Sec.-Govt. Others		162,000,000.00
Investments in Bonds and Other Debt Instruments (Net)		13,626,894.08
Equity Investment in Financial Allied Undertakings		399,500.00
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (Net)		101,370,678.16
Other Assets (Net)		
PropertyOwned/ Acquired		49,417,961 80
Others		79,588,104.01
TOTAL ASSETS	P	1,204,084,161.55
LIABILITIES		
Demand Deposits	P	61,084,792 52
Savings Deposits		627,969,694.08
Time Deposits		
Due to BSP		400,262 31
Managers Check		10,110,447 65
Accrued Interest,Taxes & Other Expenses Payable		7,643,891 07
UnearnedIncome & Other Deferred Credits		801,061 93
Other Liabilities		6,300,670 72
TOTAL LIABILITIES	P	714,310,821.18
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS :		
Capital Stock	P	441,000,000 00
Paid-In Surplus		2,222,444 00
Surplus Free		41,573,629 74
Undivided Profits		4,977,266 63
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	489,773,340.37
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	P	1,204,084,161.55
CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS:		
Items Held For Safekeeping	P	2,814 00
Items Held As Collateral		505 00
Late Deposits / payments received		42,053 16
Deficiency Claims Receivable		1,434,382 42
Outward Bills for Collections		99,458 96
Outs. Guarantees Issues - Others		1,334,000 00
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	P	2,913,213.54

COMPLIANCE WITH MAGNA CARTA LAW:

	6% For Small Enterprise	2% For Medium Enterprise
Prescribed Rates of Compliance		
Actual Compliance	102 41%	693 64%

OTHER INFORMATION: (CB Circular208)		
Non-performing loans and	P	29,320,604 64
Ratio to total Loan Portfolio		3 93%
Classified loans and other risk assets	P	29,320,604 64
General loan loss reserve	P	1,002,345 69
Specific loan loss reserve	P	11,940,836 33
Return on equity (ROE)		5 39%
DOSRIloans/advances	P	10,082,105.58
Ratio to total loan portfolio, and		1 35%
Past due DOSRI loans/advances and ratio to total portfolio		NIL

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Vicente M. Santiago, Jr.
Chairman

Alfonso G. Sly
Vice Chairman

Antonio L. Cabangon-Chua
Director

D. Alfred A. Cabangon
Director

Leow Siak Fah
Director

Leow Tze Wen
Director

Feorelio M. Bote
Director

J. Wilfredo A. Cabangon
Director

D. Arnold A. Cabangon
Director

Godofredo C. Uy-Tioco
Director

Armando C. Trinidad
Director

Benjamin V. Ramos
Director

Anthony Tan
Director

Dr. Ramon L. Sin
Director

Atty. Joaquin T. Venus, Jr.
Director, Corporate Secretary

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS:

D. Alfred A. Cabangon
President

Atty. Rey D. Delfin
Executive Vice President

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
PASIG CITY) S S

We, Eduardo O Olavario and D Alfred A Cabangon, solemnly swear that all matters set forth in this report are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

(Sgd.) EDUARDO O. OLAVARIO
VP - Comptroller

(Sgd.) D. ALFRED A. CABANGON
President

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 23rd day of April, 2003, affiant exhibiting to me their Residence Certificate No 13384953 issued at Bacoor, Cavite on February 1, 2002 and Residence Certificate No. 19313034 issued at Mandaluyong City on January 23, 2003 respectively.

TEODORO D. VILLAPENA, JR NOTARY PUBLIC; UNTIL DEC. 31, IBP NO. 572283; PTR NO. 1391462
Doc No. 16; Page No. 4; Book No 11, Series of 2003

To Our Valued Patients, Clients and the General Public:

ASIATIC MEDICAL LABORATORIES, INCORPORATED takes the utmost exceptions to the allegations aired against us over the ABS-CBN Channel 2's 14 minutes TV Program **MISSION X** shown last Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at 11:30 P.M.

We unconditionally warrant that these allegations are totally baseless and the concerned television program has only been misled by disgruntled former employee or employees of **GOLDQUEST BIOTECHNOLOGIES, INCORPORATED** motivated by malice.

The roving crew and cameraman of **MISSION X** entered the premises of **ASIATIC MEDICAL LABORATORIES, ROOM 205** at 11:00 a.m. of April 21, 2003 without any appointment and started taking footages without any permission. What **MISSION X** claimed was proof of the purchase of expired chemical reagents was a green plastic bag which contains 4 packs of properly sealed **EDTA (ETHYLENE DIAMINE TETRA ACETATE)** vacuum tubes bearing the expiration dates of October 2004 (1 pack) and November 2004 (3 packs). Definitely they are not chemical reagents. The roving crew and cameraman did not bother to examine the contents of this plastic bag. After taking the footages, the roving crew asked the manager of **ASIATIC MEDICAL LABORATORIES, INCORPORATED** for her comments. She properly declined as she did not know the reason for their video coverage. We deeply regret that **MISSION X** showed footages without giving us the opportunity to refute the unfounded and malicious charges against us.

In its 33 years of exemplary and dedicated service as well as its concern for **HUMAN HEALTH, ASIATIC MEDICAL LABORATORIES, INCORPORATED** has **NEVER** engaged itself in the purchase of "expired chemical reagents" as alleged by **MISSION X.** 100% of the chemical reagents used in our laboratories are purchased from reputable multinational companies: **ABBOTT LABORATORIES PHILIPPINES, ROCHE PHILIPPINES, BIOCARE HEALTH RESOURCES, CYBERTEC CORPORATION, MARSMAN DRYSDALE MEDICAL PRODUCTS.** We assure our valued patients, clients and the general public that the chemical reagents we purchase have passed the strict measures and requirements of **QUALITY CONTROL** of the **BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS (BFAD)** and the **BUREAU OF HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES (BHFS)** in the Department of Health.

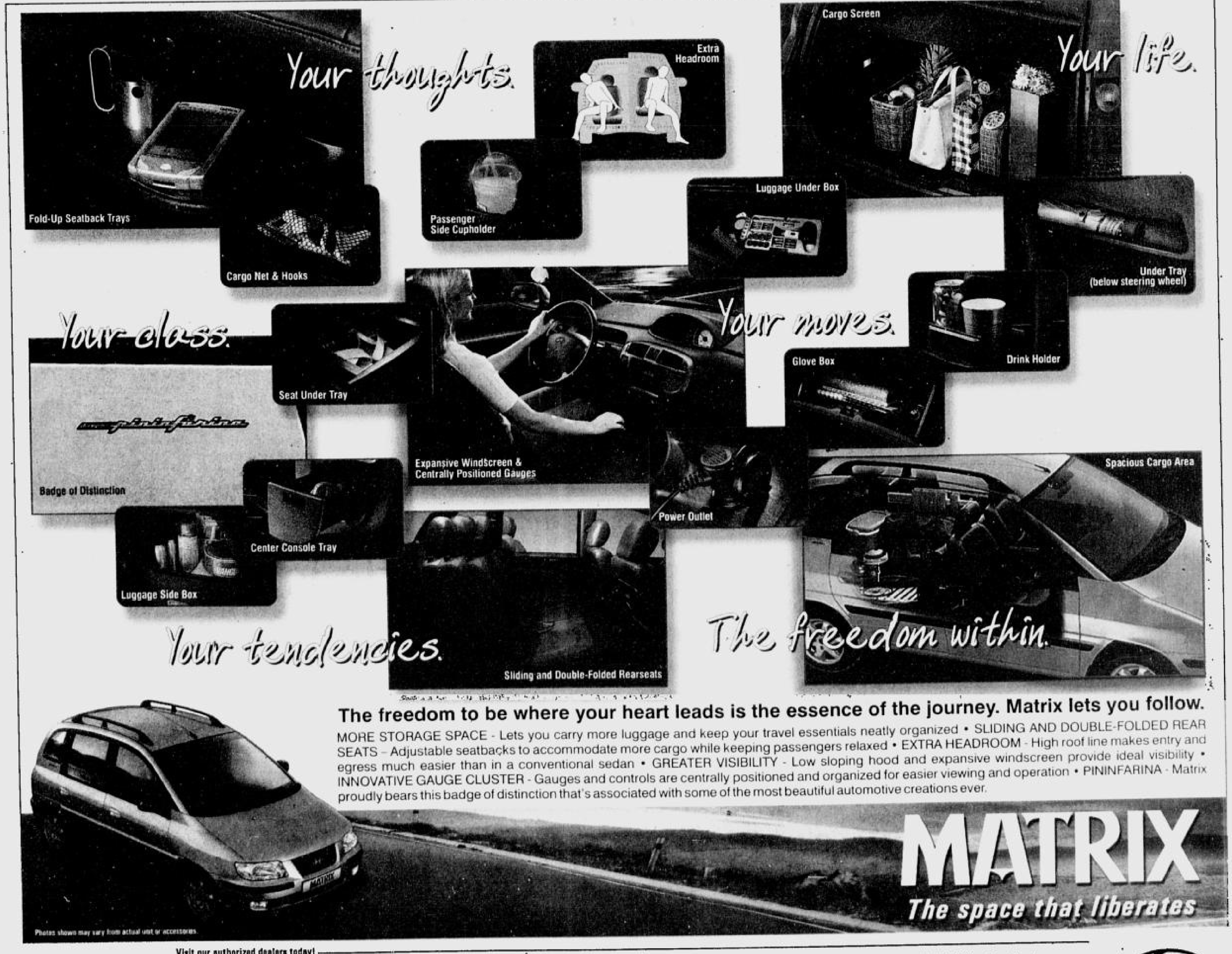
What **MISSION X** did unfairly damaged the reputation of innocent people in **LABORATORY MEDICINE.**

MISSION X owes the public an apology.

To Our Valued Patients, Clients and the General Public,
THANK YOU for your utmost understanding.
THANK YOU for believing in our goals and our mission in Laboratory Medicine.
THANK YOU for your steadfast support and for your believing that **ASIATIC MEDICAL LABORATORIES, INCORPORATED** has never been and will **NEVER** be engaged in acts which are contrary to law and the standards of Laboratory Medicine.

THE PATHOLOGIST, MANAGEMENT, AND STAFF OF ASIATIC MEDICAL LABORATORIES, INCORPORATED

PAID ADVT.



The freedom to be where your heart leads is the essence of the journey. Matrix lets you follow.

MORE STORAGE SPACE - Lets you carry more luggage and keep your travel essentials neatly organized • SLIDING AND DOUBLE-FOLDED REAR SEATS – Adjustable seatbacks to accommodate more cargo while keeping passengers relaxed • EXTRA HEADROOM - High roof line makes entry and egress much easier than in a conventional sedan • GREATER VISIBILITY - Low sloping hood and expansive windscreen provide ideal visibility • INNOVATIVE GAUGE CLUSTER - Gauges and controls are centrally positioned and organized for easier viewing and operation • PININFARINA - Matrix proudly bears this badge of distinction that's associated with some of the most beautiful automotive creations ever.

MATRIX
The space that liberates

Photos shown may vary from actual unit or accessories.

Visit our authorized dealers today!

3 YEARS 100,000 KMS
www.myhyundai.com.ph

HYUNDAI E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave.
222 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City
Tel: (02) 727-8394, (02) 413-1848
(02) 251-0018, (02) 253-1908

HYUNDAI Bacolod
Araneta St., Bacolod City
Negros Occidental
Tel: (034) 433-3510, (034) 435-0268

HYUNDAI Edsa
451 EDSA, Guadalupe, Makati City
Tel: (02) 882 2433
(02) 882 2432

HYUNDAI Cagayan De Oro
Gusa Highway,
Cagayan De Oro
Tel: (088) 855-4408 to 07

HYUNDAI Makati
2307 Don Chino Roces Ext.
Makati City
Tel. (02) 830-0013 to 17

HYUNDAI Cebu
A.S. Fortuna St., Banilad
Mandaue City, Cebu
Tel. (032) 348-2724, (032) 345-4146
(032) 345-0324 to 28

HYUNDAI Ortigas
500 EDSA, Greenhills
San Juan
Tel: (02) 723-9101 to 07

HYUNDAI Davao
Km. 8, Barrio Pampanga
Sasa, Davao City
Tel. (082) 236-2955

HYUNDAI Quezon Avenue
1144 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
Tel: (02) 374-3911
(02) 411-2720

HYUNDAI Iloilo
Luna St., La Paz, Iloilo City 5000
Tel: (033) 320 7020, (033) 508-8878
Telefax: (033) 320-4186

HYUNDAI Pampanga
San Fernando-Olongapo Gapan Rd.
San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel: (045) 961-1184, (045) 961-3977

HYUNDAI Laguna
Areza Bldg., National Highway
Brgy. Canlalay, Biñan, Laguna
Tel (049) 411-5650
(02) 520-8211, (02) 520-8250

HYUNDAI Alabang (Soon to Open!)
Alabang Zapote Road, Almanza Uno, Las Piñas City
Mobile: (0920) 900-1385, (0917) 841-4168,
(0917) 971-8088, (0917) 892 8824

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR OF HYUNDAI:
HYUNDAI ASIA RESOURCES, INC

HYUNDAI
ALWAYS THERE FOR YOU

email: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph

PEOPLE at WORK

Editor Raul O. Marcelo ● Subsection Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Former nun helps people discern their 'calling'

BARICAUA

PHOTO BY JESS YUSON

By Cecile G. Garcia

THELMA Geraldine A. Baricaua was a nun for almost two decades. But a heart condition led her to leave her religious calling and instead help people discern theirs by providing career development consultancy services.

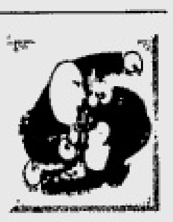
Baricaua is a senior consultant of Career Systems, Inc (CSI), a consultancy company specializing in career development. She has been with CSI for 20 years, having joined it in 1983 when it was first founded by Josie Santamaria. She and Santamaria were pioneers, good friends who shared the same interests and a common career.

The two thought of themselves as trailblazers because they were starting something that was mostly about human resources. In 1977, they founded the Career Development Association of the Philippines, of which she's past president. Career development was a new field. "It was exciting. But we knew it would be hard. We knew we would meet resistance in selling the idea," says Baricaua.

Credentials

The veteran consultant holds a degree in AB Philosophy from St. Louis University and an MA in Guidance and Counselling, major in Career Development from De La Salle University, and is presently working on a doctoral program in Personnel and Human Resources Management at the University of Sto. Tomas. "I believed the best way to establish myself was to have credentials," says Baricaua, whose involvement in career development goes back to the days when she was a nun and served as assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and as guidance director of St. Paul's College, Q.C.

CAREER TALES



She was 17 and in 3rd year college when Baricaua entered the convent and stayed for 19 years. Those were happy fulfilling years, up until the time she developed a heart condition, which according to her, came about when she started feeling burnt-out. She had been helping relocate some 200 families from a sugar plantation in Dumaguete.

The transition from the structured environment of the religious order to life outside could have been more difficult for Baricaua. There is no question that people undergo change or transition. Changing careers is not an uncommon dilemma. Baricaua applied the principles of career development in her life and saw its benefits, which eased the transition.

Career development

Fortunately for other professionals, career development has gained wider acceptance. "We started by propagating the concept in schools since students were already familiar with career guidance. We organized yearly conferences for guidance counselors nationwide," says Baricaua.

Her mission, Baricaua points out, is to help people discern their calling and to assist them in planning their careers. "They come to us because they feel they have to be sure they're on the right career path. They undergo a process wherein we explore their needs, motivations, internal barriers, and personality types. An honest counselor can pinpoint areas of growth, and an honest assessment can give the client more self-awareness," she explains. Ideally, this scientific method is combined with spiritual discernment. "When the client is confused, I bring in the spiritual dimension," claims Baricaua.

It's essential for the consultant or counselor to have good diagnostic or analytical skills. "He must be persuasive because he should be able to convince the client of what is best for him," says the consultant, adding that a consultant is supposed to be there for keeps. "He must have a long-term commitment to the client and should be a part of his history," she says.

Spiritual foundation

When feeling lost, Baricaua turns to her faith, to her spirituality, which is clearly the underpinning of her existence, keeping her above the fray of everyday life. Purposeful and determined, she says she has always been service-oriented and that service has always been a primary motivation. In a way, she carries this out more tangibly by devoting part of her time to a group which she helped organized back in 1988-the Vocation Affirmation Program. She recounts, "When I was in the convent, I realized that nuns and priests are particularly vulnerable to midlife crisis. We help them deal with it by way of this group."

At the moment, Baricaua surrounds herself with simple joys. "I'm happy whenever I help someone get over a crisis, when someone confused is enlightened and when I can help them shape their future." Perhaps because of her calling, her sense of service, Baricaua sees and defines happiness only in these terms. In the same token, she believes success means combining job and mission, and being good at both.

As far as everything goes, Baricaua has no regrets. "Being a nun was a phase in my life," she remarks. "This is another phase." When she decided to follow a different path, it did not mean that she had changed as a person. Deep down, she is the same. Her purpose and her mission remain the same. Perhaps at heart, she is still a nun. Baricaua explains, "It was merely a change of garb."

(Listen to Ms. Baricaua share her experiences on career development in People at Work Live! Seminar Series on Career Development Strategies on May 27, 28, and 29. For more information, call 897-8808 local 554.)

'I want to work in HR'

ILLUSRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice

FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I'VE been doing administrative functions for the past ten years, such as recruitment of personnel administration, maintenance of plant and equipment, and purchasing. Having been exposed to human resource (HR) functions such as recruitment, I have come to realize that an HR job is what I really want. Interviewing, screening, and conducting training and seminars really fascinate me. I really desire to shift to HR. However, there is a very slim chance for me to get into HR in my present job since our company has limited need for HR staff. Our company is also presently downsizing.

I have been applying with other companies but since my exposure is in the administration function, I cannot convince them that, although I have limited experience in HR, given the chance, I can do the HR job well. Also, most companies are looking for graduates of psychology, human behavior or organizational development for their HR people.

I am a communication arts graduate with MBA and I have attended training programs and seminars concerning HR, such as recruitment, conducting performance appraisal, and labor relations. How can I go to HR? Do you think it is not too late for me to shift in HR, as I am already in my 30s? Please help me. Thank you and God bless!

HR Aspirant

If you look at the background of successful human resource practitioners in the roster of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines, the premier HR organization today, you will notice a great variety of backgrounds in terms of the starting point of their careers. Practitioners come from law, administration, accountancy, communications, production, etc. Typically, of course, because of the need for deep understanding of human behavior required of the job, those with background in psychology and other human behavioral backgrounds are preferred.

Assets

Your solid administration background can in fact be an asset. You have a communications background. I have a similar background. My original degree was in journalism. If you will review your course, you will note that you have considerable units in human and audience behavior. These courses have given you also a deep understanding of the human factor. So, be confident that you in fact possess the knowledge needed to handle a human resource job.

Then, take a look at the way you write your resume. Does it pigeon hole you because it focuses on your administration competencies? Why not highlight the time and energy you devote to recruitment and training, as well as on the additional courses you have taken? You know the art of interviewing. Simulate with a friend and learn how you can highlight your strengths and neutralize your weaknesses.

Techniques

At 30, you have the right level of maturity to pursue the job. The challenge may not be in terms of age or background. You may not be using the proper techniques to land a human resource job. Let me share with you some techniques. First, inquire from your friends and relatives if they know of vacancies in their place of work.

Two, join professional organizations of human resource practitioners. You can join PMAP or the other more specialized field like the Organization Development Professionals Network, and the others in training, compensation or labor relations. This allows you to upgrade your know how. At the same time the power is in the network of people who can provide you leads. Watch also the Work-Force television program on RPN that I host every Sunday or read PDI's Job Market or listen to People at Work *sa* DZRH. All these resources provide you information on jobs. Then, writing this letter may just interest a reader whose company wants to give you a break. Take care and God bless!

(Ms Puangco is CEO and president of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send comments, feedback or requests for advice through email and send to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902)*

Are you stuck in an electronic traffic jam?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

ILLUSRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

DEAR WW: Last week, I received over 300 email messages! I complained to my boss, who promptly told me to come up with recommendations to reduce the number of emails sent within our company. I don't have a clue as to what we can do about it.

Stuck In An Electronic Traffic Jam.

Your letter reminded me of an old friend's Vietnam War story. When his base became the target of a mortar attack, there were, thankfully, few casualties. But one thing that took a direct hit was the compressor of the officers' club refrigerator. Well, the enlisted men thought they're prayers had been answered: at dinner that night their plates were loaded with lobster. The next morning, lobster was nestling amidst their powdered eggs.

The situation began to seem less sublime, however, when lobster showed up again at lunch...and then again at dinner...and then regularly on the menu for the better part of a week. My friend tells me he has since come to terms with his tour in Vietnam, but not with lobster.

Right amounts

So what's the connection between lobster and email? In the right amounts, they're both a delicacy. Trouble is, some people believe that if a little is good, then a lot must be better. So they serve it up in mammoth portions.

Minutes from committees we didn't know existed, messages from people we've never even heard of . . . Finally, we get so bloated from the overload we can only sit around and groan.

Well, congratulations. Your boss has handed you the mandate to create Over-emailers Anonymous. You can now put your company on an email diet. To do so, ask your colleagues to consider the following questions. I've adapted them from "Business Wisdom of the Electronic Elite" by Geoffrey James (Times Books, 1996).

Need to know

Who needs it? Before email, it actually took time and effort to communicate. Imagine how much email volume would drop if FYI'ing took more than the touch of a "send" key? Before you press that button, ask yourself honestly: "does the recipient really need to see this?"

Can you condense it? You know why journalists put the most important stuff up front? Because most people never make it to the end. Keep that in mind next time you write an email. Get to the point ASAP, and make your message ASAP (as short as possible). This is especially important now that many people have software that lets them scan the first two lines of emails without opening the entire message.

Can you give it a better name? Emails give you room for a "subject" or "headline," and there's a reason. A well-chosen headline prepares the recipient for what she's about to read. It tells the reader if the message really needs her time. And it gets your message a greater chance of getting read.

Strategic concerns

Can you do an archeological dig in your inbox? Sort through your email to determine how much of it is unnecessary, then share your results with your colleagues. This should provide powerful ammunition to your argument that everyone needs to make his emailing more strategic.

Hopefully, after they've read your recommendations, your colleagues will be less generous when they dish out email. But tell them if they do, they can always send a question or comment to Working Wounded. We never tire of email-or lobster for that matter.

(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com & RetentionEvangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

People, Events & Products
E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Aries Espinosa
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

A million-peso stopover for Jollibee winner

THE BREAKFAST stopover at Jollibee Urdaneta was worthwhile for Baby de Jesus, 54, as it brought her a passage towards winning a million pesos in the recently concluded "Bee a Millionaire" promo. Baby, her husband and her friends were on their way to Baguio to join the revelry of the Penagbenga Festival when they decided to drop by a Jollibee store to fill their empty stomachs.

"I didn't expect that my name would be picked from the rest of the entries. It was my only entry for Bee a Millionaire. I frequent Jollibee a lot to feast on their Palabok Fiesta. But I had never bothered to claim the Bee a Millionaire coupons I was entitled to get because I was always on a rush. At that time when we stopped at Urdaneta, my friend persuaded me to join the raffle promo. Ince we still had time to spare, I decided o drop in my entry," De Jesus revealed.

Baby maintained that her current fortune is a blessing to her life. A retired employee, she runs a computer shop in Bulacan. But last December, something unexpected happened that had brought damage to her small business.

"My computer shop was ransacked. Unidentified men took all the computers and several other equipments. I had to set up again to retain my customers. It was frustrating but I don't want to harbor adverse feelings about the incident. So I just prayed and trusted in the Lord that there is a purpose for everything.

"Tapos, ngayon, sobra-sobra ang binalik Niya sa akin," De Jesus said.

"Nagpapasalamat ako sa Poong Maykapal at sa Jollibee sa biyayang ito. Sana lalo pang magbigay ang Jollibee ng mga papremyong tulad nito," she continued.

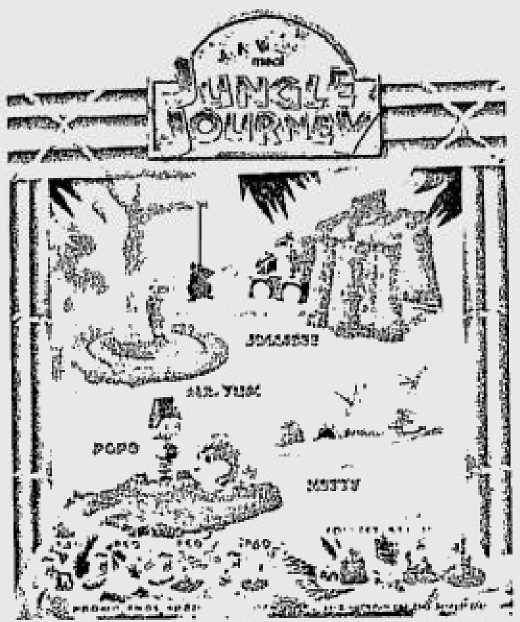
The March draw capped the Bee a Millionaire promo of Jollibee, which is part of its 25th anniversary celebration. Jollibee has lined up more surprises and treats that would bring fun and joy to countless Filipinos who continue to patronize Jollibee. "We have prepared activities for everyone throughout the year. The Bee a Millionaire is just one of our special offerings to our customers," said Pinky Laurena, Jollibee marketing manager.

Keep yourself posted of Jollibee's latest promos. Visit your local Jollibee stores to know more about its latest offerings. You'll never know what surprise would be waiting. For sure, it would be something that would give you the "Feeling Jollibee...at 25, walang kasing sarap!"

Jollibee
Get a chance
ONE MILLION
METROBANK
25

THE JOLLIBEE mascot and officials award 'Bee a Millionaire' winner Baby de Jesus (center). She is flanked by (from left) Ditas Mendoza, marketing services manager, Inez Reyes, VP for marketing, Ariel Cotaco, store shift manager, Pepot Minana, RBU head of north Luzon, Leila Acosta, operations manager, Agnes Vistro, area manager, and Mahru Cirelos, store manager.

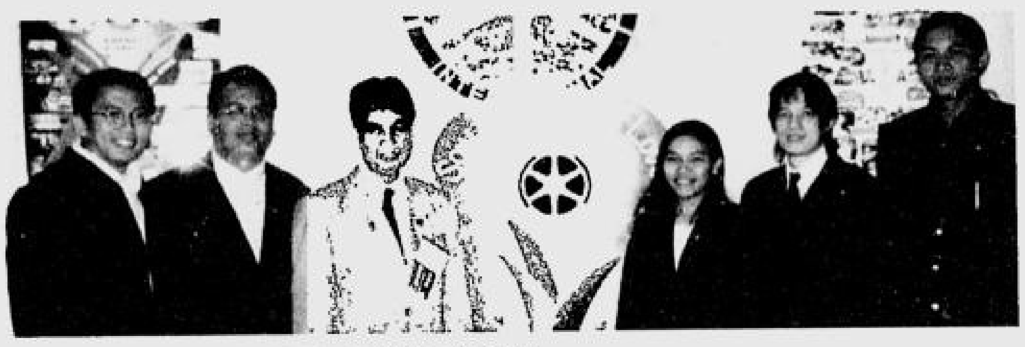
Journey to the Safari



YOUR kids don't need to go as far as the outback from Down Under or the jungles of untamed Africa to enjoy a safari escapade. Let your kids hang on to their seats because Jollibee is bringing the backwoods adventure right into their hands through the Jolly Kiddie Meal Jungle Journey.

This new Jolly Kiddie Meal collection is a sure way to make playtime more fun and creative. Your kids will discover the wild animals with Jollibee, Hetty, Popo and Yum. It is a wild ride as Jollibee takes them through the jungle journey. Winding up Jollibee's vehicle will let the expedition begin. But there's no need to panic. Some of the animals are not too menacing like the elephant that Hetty feeds. What's more, Popo shows that a camera comes in handy in preserving jungle moments as he takes snapshots of the lion as it roars. Cap this through a share of laughter with Mr. Yum as he observes a monkey's silly antics, swinging up and down a tree.

These toys come with every Jolly Kiddie Meal of your kids' choice: Regular Yum, Jolly Hotdog, Spaghetti Special, and Chickenjoy. Hurry. Make your children discover the fun and excitement of the Jungle Journey minus the sunburns and heat waves. Add more color to their summer and complete their safari adventure collection with a "Feeling Jollibee..walang kasing sarap!"



ROTARY GSE REPS OFF TO AUSTRALIA

The Rotary Club District 3370 presented its five official representatives to the Group Study Exchange (GSE) program in Perth, Western Australia during its annual district conference in Baguio City. This year's GSE batch is composed of (from left) public official Dennis Carlos (Meycauyan, Bulacan); educators Carlo Vadil (Nueva Vizcaya) and Rose Bajan (Tuguegarao City); top marketing executive Vince Reyes (Calumpit, Bulacan); and forester Jaime Venturina Jr (San Ildefonso, Bulacan). Also shown is GSE leader Rotary past district governor Boy Valle Jr. (3rd from left). The GSE is a 6-week educational program of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, which aims to promote international understanding through an exchange of study teams composed of young professionals between paired districts in different countries. The Philippine group will be privileged to learn, immerse themselves in the culture, as well as establish further camaraderie with their Rotarian counterparts in Australia.

KKP CORPORATE PLANING MEET

Kaeser Kompressoren Phils. Inc. had just concluded their corporate planning meeting, which was held at the Hotel Rembrandt March 6 to 8 in Quezon City. The meeting was presided by Benedict Chai, regional manager for Asia Pacific. Kaeser Kompressoren Phils. Inc. is a direct subsidiary of Kaeser Kompressoren, the global compressed air solutions provider with more than 80 years experience. For more information, call 372-6642 and 415-9321, or log on to www.kaeser.com.

Training Tausug Youth

START 'em young.

Young Tausugs battle for new acquisitions-not arms, but knowledge as an innovative Leadership Training Seminar (LTS) was formally launched by the Young Moro Professionals (YMP) Network Inc., in coordination with the Sulu Provincial Government, Phil. Councilor's League Sulu and Sangguniang Kabataan Federation March 1 and 2 at the Sulu Panlalawigan Hall, Jolo.

Sanggunian Kabataan (SK) and other select youth leaders from Sulu converged in Jolo for a training that engaged the 40 youths in concepts of management, Islamic leadership and law.

The pioneering and pilot project aims to instill concepts of making professional the governance in the ARMM region, which hosts the poorest barrios in the country. The YMP extended the leadership seminar to another program in a Jolo secondary school for students in a Study Smart Seminar, which aims to encourage teenagers to take up college degrees.

Trainers and resource persons from the YMP are Sulu Board Member Edil Baddiri, Ayesah Abubakar (AIM graduate), John Musa (AIM graduate), Jehanne Mutin (USAid), Jamal Amin (an entrepreneur) and Samira Ali Gutoc (National Youth Parliament Alumni Association).

YMP plans to launch another LTS in the Islamic City of Marawi in coordination with the local government.

School to School
NIVEA Sun
-Ups

PFIZER LOVING CARE AT CLARET

The SunSmart Kids School To School Tour recently visited the kindergarten department of Claret School in UP Village, Quezon City. The activity is a project of Pfizer Loving Care (PLC) and Events Plus in collaboration with the Department of Health and the Philippine Children's Medical Center. Kids participated in the fun-filled activity and brought home lots of surprises from PLC. Highlight of the program was the storytelling session wherein kids listened to the exciting beach adventure of the SunSmart Kid 'Mira' and her firefly friend 'Ting'. Comprehensive educational modules like activity booklets were given away to all the kids at the end of the program. Pfizer Loving Care is a line-up of reliable products that helps mothers take care of their kids better. This includes Caladryl, Bonamine, Terramycin and Desitin. All proven to be the gentle yet effective cure for your child's minor cuts, rashes, skin irritations, allergies and motion sickness. Shown is Dr. Cecille Nieva, pediatrician and pulmonologist from the Philippine Children's Medical Center (seated) with kindergarten students of Claret School during the storytelling session.

Diocese of Laoag
P.O. Box 12, 2900 Laoag City, Ilocos Norte
Philippines
Telephone Numbers (077) 7705210 / 7720002 / 7720233
Fax Number (077) 7721805

Invitation

The Diocese of Laoag, through the office of the Bishop, invites interested investors/ contractors to develop a 4 or 5-storey commercial building with address corner of F.R. Castro Avenue and Nolasco Streets covering a total land area of 1,462 (one thousand four hundred sixty two) square meters under the Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) Scheme. The site is right at the heart of the city's commercial district.

Interested parties may contact Rev. Franklin Gorospe at the aforementioned address/ telephone numbers.

(PDI-April 30, 2003)

Bits Clips

Successful bar examinee

JOMAR Alyzar A. Betita of the University of San Agustin College of Law in Iloilo City hurdled the 2002 Bar Examinations. He is the eldest son of Joefene Betita of Pototan, Iloilo and Maria Alvarez of Carles, Iloilo. He took his oath for admission to the bar together with the other successful examinees before the Supreme Court en banc last March 19 at the PICC.

Andrean golf tourney 2003

GRADUATES of High School Batch 1978 of Saint Andrew's School of Paranaque City will be organizing the first ever golf tournament titled "Para Kay San Andres-Charity Golf Tournament" for the improvement of school facilities. All Andreans are invited to join the event to be held on May 9 at the Philippine Navy Golf Club, Fort Bonifacio, Makati. Tee-off time is from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. Major sponsor of the game is Paranaque Mayor Joey P. Marquez. Proceeds of this tournament will be used for the upgrading of the school facilities and equipment. Interested alumni can call Nonoy Sornillo at 776-7606 and 0917-8179532 and Rey Villarubin at 0918-9006396.

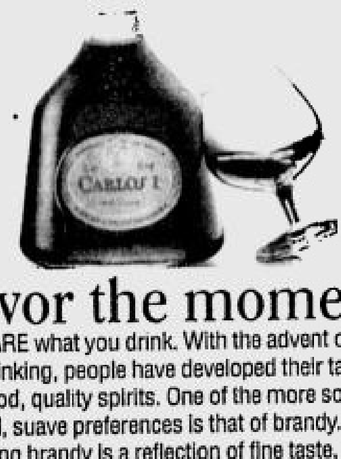
SM Mega sale starts

SM Megamall Ortigas and SM City Cagayan de Oro will hold a grand 3-day sale on May 2, 3 and 4. The 3-day sale offers up to 50 percent price breaks on great selections mallwide. Shoppers at SM Megamall Ortigas and SM City Cagayan de Oro will be treated to choice buys and great deals on groceries, apparel, toys, infant essentials, home furnishings and more. With the wide array of items available at terrific savings, your shopping money will definitely go a long way. Mall hours are from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. for SM Megamall Ortigas and from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. for SM City Cagayan de Oro.

BVANHS alumni grand reunion

BENIGNO V. Aldana National High School (formerly Pozorrubio High School) in Pozzorubio, Pangasinan will hold the biggest ever Alumni Grand Reunion (AGR) on May 2 and 3 at the school campus. All Alumni from Class 1947 to 2003 are invited. The reunion will celebrate the school's 57th anniversary with the theme "Bringing Back the Missing Link...The Alumni". Interested parties can call Elvira Mendoza at 0920-5032804, Verina Almerol at 0918-7421289 or the batch coordinators.

Product Files



Savor the moment

YOU ARE what you drink. With the advent of social drinking, people have developed their taste for good, quality spirits. One of the more sophisticated, suave preferences is that of brandy. Enjoying brandy is a reflection of fine taste, good company and the reward of a job well done. The best brandies in the world were first aged, produced and commercially distributed by the Domecq Family in the town of Jerez, Spain in the 1800s. Its discovery of the Solera System in making brandies led to the family's reputation for yielding the finest the world over.

The passion for a unique, premium blend led the Domecq Family to the finest brandy, Carlos I. Since the 1920s, Carlos I has been recognized worldwide as the best of Familia Domecq brandies.

The moment when everything falls effortlessly into place is what is known as the Carlos I moment. It is a state of complete satisfaction and calm. And like all the best things life has to offer, it is worth savoring. Cheers!

Asian shares fly as easing SARS fears lift airlines

SINGAPORE—Asian stocks soared on Tuesday, scoring their biggest gains since the run-up to the Iraq war, as battered airline shares surged on hopes the SARS outbreak had peaked.

Strong US company results also contributed to gains of three percent in Hong Kong and Singapore stock benchmarks and five percent in South Korea, where easing tensions with North Korea were another driver. Japan was closed for a public holiday.

Australia's Qantas Airways Ltd., Hong Kong's Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. and Korean Air Line rebounded more than seven percent after tumbling in recent weeks as SARS scared off travellers.

"We are covering short positions on stocks we sold because of SARS—Cathay and retailers," said Y.K. Chan, investment strategist at VC CEF Brokerage in Hong Kong, where the Hang Seng Index was up 3.2 percent at midday.

Oil prices slipped to five-month lows on ample supplies, while the dollar held steady as the US stock rally and weak German economic data cooled demand for the euro.

A broad measure of Asian shares, the MSCI Asia Pacific ex-Japan Free Index, was up 2.7 percent at 0600 GMT, its biggest gain since the United States issued its pre-war ultimatum to Iraq on March 18. That was just after the WHO sounded a worldwide health alert on SARS.

"First, the US market was strong overnight. People are also using the reason that the World Health Organisation has indicated that the SARS has peaked in Singapore," said Tan Choon Hoe, senior fund manager at AIB Govett (Asia) in Singapore. The island's Straits Times Index was up 3.0 percent in early afternoon trade.

The World Health Organization said on Monday the SARS outbreak had peaked in Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam and Canada. It remained concerned about China, where shares fell on uncertainty over whether regulators would impose an extended market holiday to curb the spread of SARS.

Asian stocks were also lifted by big gains in US shares after solid results from blue chips McDonald's Corp. and Procter & Gamble Co. sparked optimism for a rebound in the US economy.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average finished up two percent at 8,471.61, its biggest rally since April 2. The Nasdaq Composite Index advanced 1.9 percent to 1,462.24.

South Korean stocks closed up five percent, their biggest gain in three weeks, helped by news that North Korea had offered to scrap its nuclear weapons in return for concessions from the United States. Shares rose 1.5 percent in Taiwan and 1.1 percent in Australia.

But worries about SARS remained. WHO officials said its warning to travellers against visiting Hong Kong was likely to remain in place for at least another few weeks and the SARS outbreak was intensifying in China.

"We are so close with China geographically and economically. If the situation is not brought under control there, it will affect business here," said Frederick Tsang, research director at China Everbright Group in Hong Kong.

Oil extended its losing streak, weighed down by worries over ample supplies after an OPEC production agreement offered little in the way of real cuts in output.

US light crude slid three quarters of a percent to $25.30 a barrel, around its lowest since November.

The euro was hovering under $1.1000, little changed from late US trade, after falling from a near four-year high of $1.1078 on Monday following weaker than expected German economic data. *Reuters*

NZ says EU reform needed to save talks

PARIS—New Zealand, a leading member of the free farm trade Cairns Group, on Monday called on the European Union to reform its agricultural subsidy system to save stalled world trade talks launched in late 2001 in Doha.

New Zealand's Trade and Farm Minister Jim Sutton, visiting Paris, said that the EU's 40-billion-euro a year Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was the "biggest single obstacle" to progress in the talks, which are due to wrap up in 2005 but have made scant progress so far.

An end-March deadline for an outline to farm trade talks has been missed and with the world's major powers still at odds over the US-led war on Iraq, fears are mounting that a new World Trade Organization (WTO) deal to lower trade barriers and boost the flagging global economy could fail.

"It is very difficult to see any successful outcome to the Doha Round unless Europe embraces sufficient agricultural reform," Sutton told a news conference.

Sutton is among top trade negotiators who have gathered in Paris for several days of annual meetings organized by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Among them are EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy and US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick.

Sutton said Europe had to commit to a drastic reduction in its farm export subsidies with a view to eliminating them, and there had to be big cuts in trade-distorting domestic subsidies.

The EU's latest proposals on shaking up its farm subsidies have run into traditionally fierce opposition from France, the bloc's agricultural powerhouse. Paris, fearing an end to lucrative subsidies, wants to delay reform until after 2006.

EU members are heading for a major showdown at a farm ministers' meeting in June, the self-imposed deadline for a deal, just a few months ahead of a key WTO ministerial meeting in Mexico in September that is supposed to set the agenda for the second half of the overall trade round negotiations. *Reuters*

Young women walk past a huge picture on a building advertising a new shop of the French brand Chanel at a Tokyo shopping district. European luxury fashion brands such as Chanel, Cartier, Ferragamo and Gucci will open their new big shops in the area despite Japan's slack economy. AFP

Japan mulls ways to rescue stock market

TOKYO—The Japanese government is considering putting together emergency measures next week to shore up stocks prices after the key index of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell to a new two-decade low, reports said Tuesday.

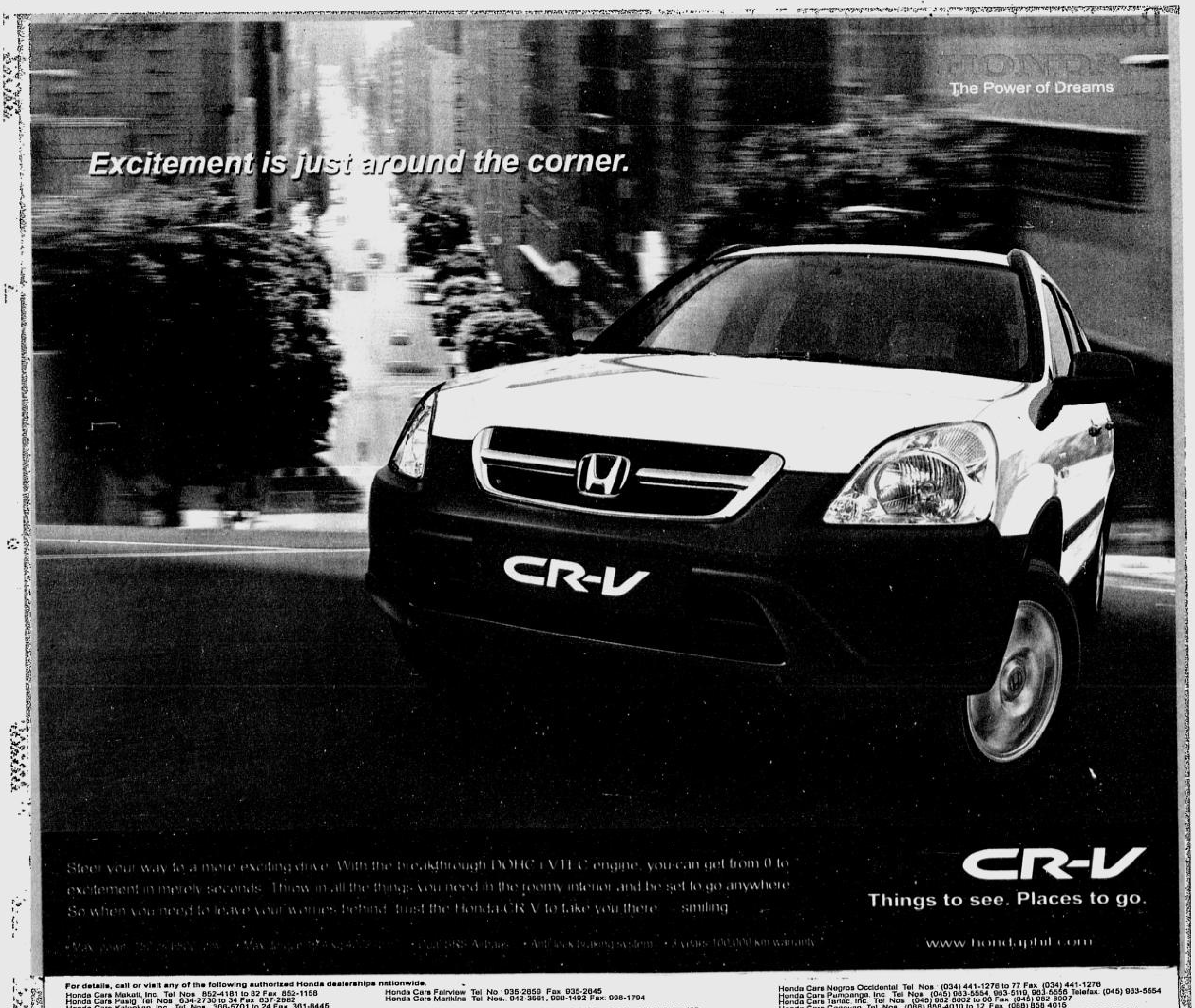
The leading proposal is to reinforce the Bank Shareholdings Purchase Corp., a governmental body set up to purchase shares from banks, the Nihon Keizai and Yomiuri newspapers said.

The government and ruling parties are considering temporarily scrapping a requirement that banks pay a fee of eight percent of the selling price of shares bought by the body, they said without naming sources.

The mass-circulation Yomiuri said another idea being proposed is to increase the government's investment in stocks through the massive pool of postal savings and insurance.

The Nihon Keizai business daily said the temporary abolition of the requirement for the banks to pay fees to the purchase body could last for one to two years.

Supporters of the idea believe the abolition of the fees would encourage banks to make more use of the special corporation. Its share purchases have so far totaled only 220 billion yen ($1.8 billion) since February last year, it said. *AFP*


The Power of Dreams
Excitement is just around the corner.
CR-V
CR-V
Things to see. Places to go.

Steer your way to a more exciting drive. With the breakthrough DOHC i-VTEC engine, you can get from 0 to excitement in merely seconds. Throw in all the things you need in the roomy interior and be set to go anywhere. So when you need to leave your worries behind, trust the Honda CR-V to take you there — smiling.

• [illegible] • [illegible] • Dual SRS Airbags • Anti-lock braking system • 3 years 100,000 km warranty

www.hondaphil.com

For details, call or visit any of the following authorized Honda dealerships nationwide.
Honda Cars Makati, Inc. Tel Nos 852-4181 to 82 Fax 852-1158
Honda Cars Pasig Tel Nos 634-2730 to 34 Fax 637-2982
Honda Cars Kalookan, Inc Tel Nos 366-5701 to 24 Fax 361-8445
Honda Cars Alabang Tel Nos 807-7704, 807-7978, 809-4560 Fax 809-5052
Honda Cars Quezon City, Inc Tel Nos 712-6850 to 61 Fax 732-8559
Honda Cars Shaw Tel Nos 717-1681 to 85 Fax 725-7873
Honda Cars Manila Tel No 338-4225 Fax 502-4548 loc 130
Honda Cars Fairview Tel No 935-2850 Fax 935-2845
Honda Cars Marikina Tel Nos. 942-3561, 998-1492 Fax: 998-1704

Honda Cars Pangasinan, Inc Tel Nos (075) 522-1488 to 89 Fax: (075) 522-1490
Honda Cars Cebu, Inc Tel Nos (032) 231-3502 to 08 Fax (032) 231-4488
Honda Cars San Pablo, Inc Tel Nos (049) 562-7713 to 14 Fax (049) 562-7712
Honda Cars Davao, Inc Tel Nos (082) 221-7400 to 07, 221-7042, 221-4129 Fax (082) 221-7407
Honda Cars Negros Occidental Tel Nos (034) 441-1276 to 77 Fax (034) 441-1278
Honda Cars Pampanga, Inc Tel Nos (045) 963-5554, 963-5119, 963-5556 Telefax: (045) 963-5554
Honda Cars Tarlac, Inc. Tel Nos (045) 982-8002 to 06 Fax (045) 982-8007
Honda Cars Cagayan Tel Nos (088) 858-4010 to 12 Fax (088) 858-4015
Honda Cars Gen. Santos, Inc. Tel Nos (083) 553-9797, (083) 301-3108 Fax: (083) 301-3109

US regulators finalize $1.4-B Wall St. settlement

WASHINGTON/NEW YORK—US market regulators unveiled final terms on Monday of a record $1.4-billion settlement with Wall Street's major brokerages over biased company research and said probes continued into the conduct of senior executives at the investment banks.

Ten top financial firms, while admitting no wrongdoing, agreed to pay to settle allegations that analysts issued slanted reports—mainly during the 1990s technology and telecommunications stock bubble—to curry favor with corporate managers and gain investment banking business.

Marking the end of a star system among Wall Street analysts, the settlement banned two former bright lights from the securities industry for life—ex-Merrill Lynch & Co. Internet analyst Henry Blodget and Jack Grubman, once the top telecommunications analyst at the Salomon Smith Barney brokerage unit of financial giant Citigroup Inc. Merrill, Citigroup and Swiss-owned Credit Suisse Group's CSFB settled charges of securities fraud in the agreement, said Securities and Exchange Commission Chair William Donaldson at a news conference.

The three, along with seven other firms—including Goldman Sachs Group and Morgan Stanley—also settled lesser charges of breaking market rules and agreed to a set of structural reforms to make analysts more independent.

Donaldson said the SEC and other government agencies continued to look into the conduct of senior brokerage executives who managed the analysts.

"It's an ongoing issue with us in terms of supervision," he told Reuters in an interview after the news conference.

New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer said, "There will be further actions against individuals linked to analyst conflicts of interest and other related wrongdoing. My office continues several investigations, as does the SEC and NASD."

Spitzer, who led early probes of analyst misconduct, hailed the settlement as an "inflection point" in market history resembling the Progressive Era reforms of the early 1900s.

Securities and Exchange Commission Chair William Donaldson (left), National Association of Securities Dealers Chair and CEO Robert Glauber (center) and New York Stock Exchange Chair Richard Grasso listen to a question by a reporter during an SEC briefing to announce a $1.4-billion settlement against Wall Street investment banks in Washington.

REUTERS

But Iowa Republican Sen. Charles Grassley, who has been hammering the SEC on tax and insurance aspects of the settlement, said it "looks like half a loaf."

Grassley said he was concerned the brokerages might be able to deduct "one-third or more" of their $1.4 billion payment from their taxes and get insurers to cover some of the bill.

"What the firms are bragging about, this $1.4 billion, ends up being a lot less than $1.4 billion," Grassley said. That's a slap on the wrist, not a real punishment." The SEC publicly released about 3,000 pages of memos, e-mails and court records in announcing the settlement, which was filed with the courts for review.

Plaintiffs' lawyers were expected to begin poring over the evidence and soon unleash a new wave of civil litigation, which could cost investment banks far more than the settlement itself, said plaintiffs' lawyers.

Other brokerages involved in the settlement included Bear Stearns, Lehman Brothers, J.P. Morgan Chase, the Piper Jaffray unit of US Bancorp and the UBS Warburg unit of UBS AG.

"We are talking about tens of billions of dollars in future settlements here," said Thomas Ajamie, a plaintiff's attorney who won a record $429-million arbitration award against a PaineWebber broker in 2001. *Reuters*

Merrill's Komansky retires after 35 years

NEW YORK—David Komansky, a Wall Street veteran who rose through the ranks to become chairman of giant brokerage Merrill Lynch & Co., stepped down on Monday at Merrill's annual meeting, after spending 35 years at the firm.

Komansky's departure, long expected, leaves Chief Executive Stan O'Neal alone at the helm of Merrill, which currently has $1.1 trillion in assets.

"David Komansky has been one of the major contributors to the financial community's progress throughout the world during his tenure at Merrill Lynch," said John Gutfreund, who ran investment bank Salomon Brothers in the 1980s.

Komansky, who kept a picture of the tenement building in which he grew up hanging inside his office, worked his way through a number of positions at Merrill before being named president and chief operating officer in 1995. He took over as CEO in December 1996.

"It was a great run," Komansky told Reuters after the meeting. However, he acknowledged that 2002 was a rough year.

"This past year was a difficult year to be in business for our company, our clients and our industry," he told shareholders during the meeting. *Reuters*

Stock market data show conflicts of interest

NEW YORK—New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and other regulators dumped hundreds of pages of evidence into the public domain on Monday, providing an inside view of how stock analysts worked hand in glove with bankers to win business.

Reports covering investigations into 10 investment banks that signed onto a $1.4-billion Wall Street research settlement aim to show that stock analysts often lied to investors to win business for their firms.

The reports are laced with exchanges like this one between a UBS Warburg sales manager and one of its telecommunications analysts: "The sales force is extremely frustrated with your research" and for "having lost hundreds of millions of dollars for people," the sales manager complained in an e-mail.

The analyst responded that he'd never issue a "hold" rating on a stock unless, "1) If I believe the company is about to go bankrupt; (or) 2) If there is no investment banking business to be had there."

In another e-mail, a Lehman Brothers analyst complained to his supervisor about the influence that investment banking has exerted on his coverage.

"Enough is enough," he said. "It's hard enough to be right about stocks, it's even harder to build customer relationships when all of your companies blow up, you knew they were going to, and you couldn't say anything."

To be sure, the e-mail passages by themselves don't prove fraud or other securities violations. The evidence is incriminating, though, and both the volume of exchanges and the number of investment banks involved shows that the abuse wasn't isolated.

"One of the main reasons that we released this in one shot was that this was an industry-wide problem, and not one that can be singled out," said Anthony Taggart, the director of Utah's Division of Securities, the office responsible for investigating investment bank Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

A key rationale for releasing the documented evidence was to provide private investors who lost money with ammunition to bring their own lawsuits, said Taggart.

The Securities and Exchange Commission complaints are made available on its website, while individual states have compiled evidence into reports and made them available on websites or through special request.

The New York Attorney General's Office, for instance, has made downloadable reports available for Citigroup Inc. and Morgan Stanley.

In its 300-page Morgan Stanley report, for example, there are numerous presentations by the investment bank to potential clients that promote Internet maven Mary Meeker and other analysts to help win underwriting business.

The underlying theme is the pressure that analysts were under to help win mandates to manage IPOs.

In one self-evaluation, Meeker wrote: "Bottom line, my highest and best use is to help (Morgan Stanley) win the best Internet IPO mandates."

Once companies had been taken public, there was often pressure on analysts to maintain high ratings because companies could generate more underwriting fees from follow-on stock sales. *Reuters*

Boeing chairman defends performance in tough times

CHICAGO—Boeing Co. Chairman and Chief Executive Phil Condit, facing shareholders at the company's annual meeting on Monday, was unable to promise a turnaround anytime soon in the downtrodden commercial aviation sector.

But he maintained that the world's largest commercial jet manufacturer is far better off today than had it never diversified into other businesses, particularly military contracting, starting in 1996.

Boeing shares have plunged 37 percent since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks that sent the aviation sector into an unprecedented downturn. But Condit defended the company's 2002 performance in the face of many challenges.

"Our financial results in 2002 were good considering the downturn," he told shareholders. Net income before accounting changes fell 18 percent in 2002 to $2.32 billion, while revenue fell 7 percent to $54 billion.

The latest travail to impact the commercial aviation sector is the deadly viral disease called Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS, which is depressing air travel in Pacific Rim, particularly to and within China and Hong Kong.

"SARS is still an unknown," Condit told reporters at a briefing after the shareholder meetings.

The blow to international travel due to SARS and the conflict in Iraq built on woes in the US airline industry stemming from the Sept. 11 attacks and the weakened US economy.

The industry's challenges have naturally had a big impact on Chicago-based Boeing, which derived 53 percent of its revenue last year from commercial airplanes. *Reuters*

Global chip sales growth slows

SAN FRANCISCO—Global semiconductor sales growth slowed in March, prompting a chip trade group on Monday to lower its forecast for 2003.

The US-based Semiconductor Industry Association lowered its chip industry forecast to 10 percent to 15 percent growth this year, from a forecast of nearly 20 percent growth and second-quarter growth of 3.5 percent to 5.5 percent.

The 2002 forecast is still more bullish than predictions from analysts, who are looking for growth of from 5 percent to the low teens in general.

The trade group dismissed many of the concerns that chip industry watchers see as potentially derailing growth in the second half, including inventory build-up and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

"The recovery that has been under way for 15 months, did have a pause in February, but bounced back in March," George Scalise, president of the SIA, said in a conference call.

"Increased demand and slightly lower inventory should bode well for this market place. We still anticipate corporate PC upgrade cycle buying."

Worldwide chip sales in March were $12.13 billion, up 2.6 percent from February, and up 13 percent year over year, according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS) and the SIA. That compared with year-over-year growth of 18 percent in February, traditionally a slow month. *Reuters*

Song-swapping fight to go on

LONDON—The music industry on Monday pledged to fight on with its global legal battle to stifle online copyright abuse despite last week's unexpected setback in a US court.

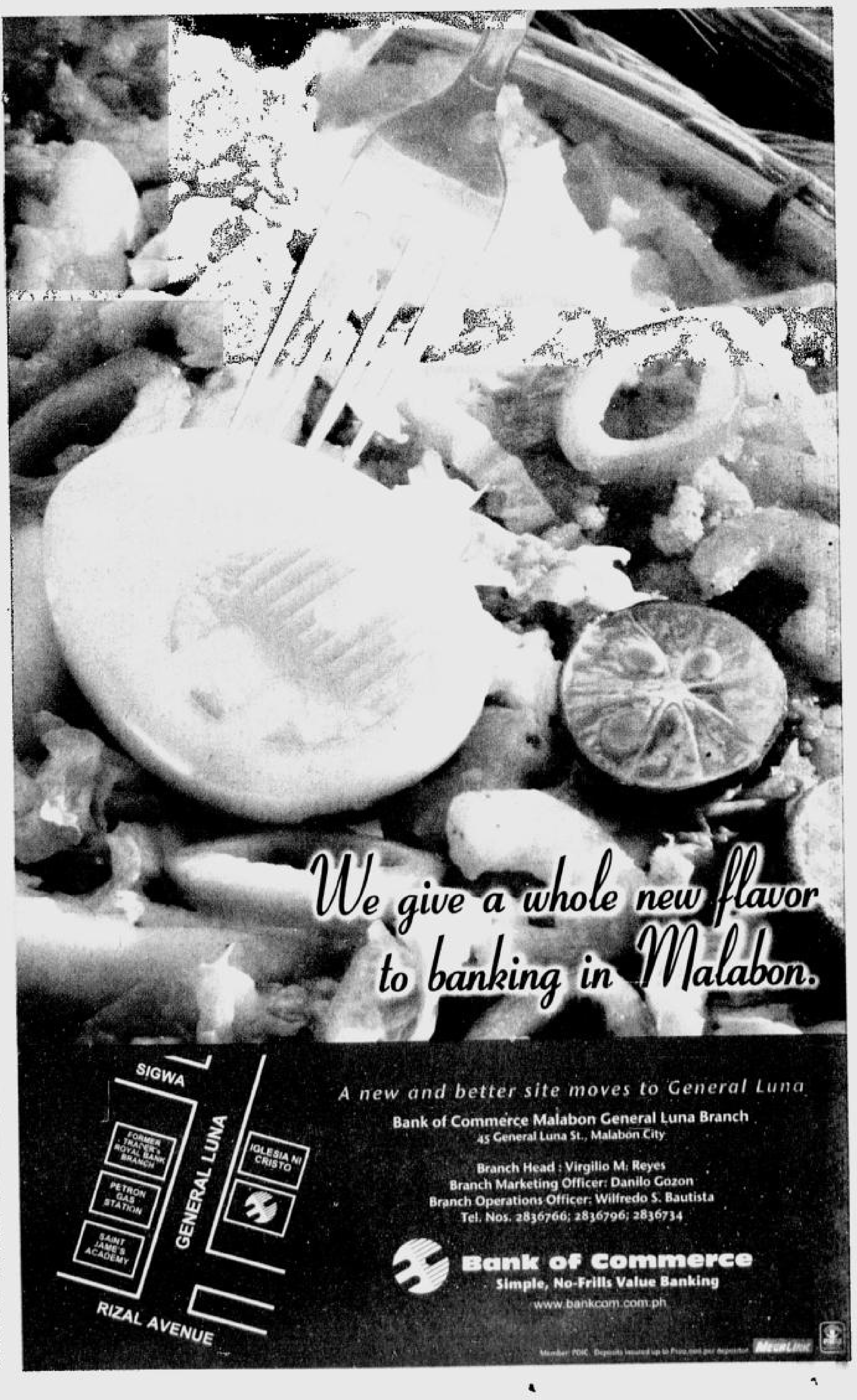
US District Court Judge Stephen Wilson on Friday dealt a major blow to the major music labels and Hollywood studios in their fight against online piracy, ruling Internet file-sharing services Grokster and Morpheus can remain open for business.

Judge Wilson ruled Grokster and Morpheus could not be shut down because they cannot control what is traded over their systems even if the material exchanged is copyright-protected.

In contrast, the original song-trading network Napster was shut down by a US Federal court judge two years ago as its older technology hosted a central index of copyrighted files.

The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) and Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), had sought a court injunction to shut down Grokster, Morpheus and a third party, Kazaa, for operating services that allow Internet users to trade all types of copyright-protected materials.

The trade groups represent the film- and music-making divisions of AOL Time Warner, Vivendi Universal, Bertelsmann AG and Sony Corp, to name a few. *Reuters*



A new and better site moves to General Luna
Bank of Commerce Malabon General Luna Branch
45 General Luna St., Malabon City

Branch Head : Virgilio M. Reyes
Branch Marketing Officer: Danilo Gozon
Branch Operations Officer: Wilfredo S. Bautista
Tel. Nos. 2836766; 2836796; 2836734

Bank of Commerce
Simple, No-Frills Value Banking
www.bankcom.com.ph

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

We DESIGN & CONSTRUCT
533-74-85 • 0920-6148859

COMPUTER REPAIR

ANY COMPUTER REPAIRS N SALES TEYACOM 8515186

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

FREE PLAN-CONST. 9126833

COSMETOLOGY

AROMATHERAPY & SPA
WORKSHOP / SESSION
MAY 3 SAT 1-5 PM
8956031 L2011 / 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

WANT TO GET RID OF ARTHRITIS THE HEALTHY WAY? CALL 8264740 CAROLE

Weight Less
Call 521-9683 / 0917-4770408

MASSAGE

OOOOOH BOYZ 3233269

3503427 MANHOOD

746-5532 BOYWATCH

Akhin Thai Mla 8347357 Cbu 2532597 Bguio 448-7184

BOYS TOUCH CALL 889-1490

H'some Athletes • 833-7361

Human Touch Male Masseurs 09205835279 7426926 24 Hrs.

HUNKS TOUCH 0920-5182552

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8518650 ; 0920-6274243

JV MALE MASSUERS 24hrs 09202387878 ;7130279

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

MALE MASSEURS 8525521

Masseur • Txt 0916-4636869

MODELO'S #277-9257

Swedish Msge 0919-4743278

REFLEXOLOGY

BLUE PALM • 713-6553

D'Millenium M/F 9347633

Edward 7289285 09193365411

FEELS GOOD 4127758

Field of Dreams
7121066/7123699 M/F

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

RYAN 09196658730/8445117

THE TSUBOS
T.Morato Ave.QC-4140933

Wizard Massage 4213197

TUTORIAL LESSONS

Acad/Eng 589-7128, 562-7319

• LIGHT 5301315 5268216 •

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Direct Maid Cook Yaya 7572089

AVBL MAID NURSE CAREGIVER 4128513 4121922 7114693

BEST MAIDS 772-4213

Good-Maid-Yaya-Cook 853-3504

EXP COOK YAYA MAIDS LAVA DRIVER ATTNDANT 5368216

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Maid- Yaya Cook 870-5730

MAIDS 9124701•9124706

MAIDS W/NBI 4376246

PROVINCIAL ALL AROUND MAIDS Call Joy 8712372•8722792

PROVINCIAL MAID 7328405

Prov'l. Trusted Maids Yaya CALL 873-7055 • 873-7057

QUALITY MAIDS 8330946-47

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

ANGEL'S HANDS
w/ NBI&BI 4213253 / 4213874

Reliable MAIDS W/ NBI 9129443

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/ NBI & BI 421-3828

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447599

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

L-BAHAY 781-2564

LIPAT BAHAY 535-2064

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

PASIG

418sqm 5Dr 2Sty Apt. frnt College T-6414589, 09175372340

6.4Has Pasig 10 mins. to Ortigas T-6414589, 09175372340

QUEZON CITY

Cubao 960 sqm LA 800sm FA Nice Loc& Hse Call 645-3731

VARIED AREAS

Antipolo 737m² @ P1.6M
Bulacan 4-5hec @ 150/m²
Makati 3700m² @ P29T/m²
Fidel 0920-9012422

HOUSE & LOT

KALOOCAN

CAMARIN Cal City LA240m² FA104m² 2Bdrms 1T&B P1.2M Vic/Gie 8903461 loc. 27

LAS PINAS

READY FOR OCCUPANCY
LAS PINAS OR BACOOR
Only P 5,000 to reserve
2-3 BRS, 2 storey w/garage
873-4074 / 873-5949

MAKATI

7.5M SAV 5BR3TB 8900789

MARIKINA

Gnhts. new4br 2.2M 9487112

PARANAQUE

Bicutan 2br 2tb 09178928471

PASIG

★ Kawilihan ★ Duplex
P5.5M like BNew 671-4421

QUEZON CITY

★St. Ignatius Vill,cor lot 6br 4tb P14M 09192221766

•L300m² HAYEVILLE Proj.6 QC
•L520m² 6BR w/spool Proj6
•L600m² 3sty Malakas St.QC
•L390 Apo St. SMHts 9298376

Nr Ateneo 9M & Up Build as per Specs Call 645-3731

•Proj2 new 9210255/9219967•

RUSH! P1.6M DBO
Sn PEDRO 7 SUBD
nr Channel 5 NOVA
LA144 FA60 2BR w/grge
272-9765•0918-9396822

Sct. Castor nr Morato 3br3tb 2cg 3.5M 6873372/09178102903

RIZAL

AYALA-ANTIPOLO
P1.6-7M 2-5BR 10%DP P16T/mo LA150-250SQM nr. La Salle/ Assumption • 0918-9355737

LA 346 FA 200 3BR Nr Lores 2Park Call 0917-5218338

Vermont Park Antipolo 239m² 2sty 5BR w/ bathtub attic 2aircon L340 tel grge P5M 7801821 0919-5764056 welcome agents

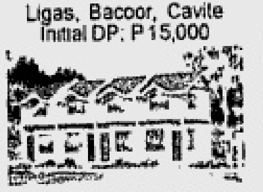
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

CAINTA TOWNHOUSE
near EVER-Gotesco Cainta
P600T S/P, ONLY P180T D/P
P8,750/mo. for 15 years
531-1384/0390 • (0920) 904-9632
www.guevent.com/homes

HOUSE & LOT

WESTVILLE HOMES
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000



COASTAL WOODS VILLAGE
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 25,000

CASIMIRO TOWNHOMES
Habay, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP P 15,000

FORTE REALTY
893-4207 829-5081
810-7183 872-9982
805-5826 871-8318
871-1226
Welcome Brokers & Agents
www.forterealty.com

VARIED AREAS

LIPAT AGAD!
ONLY 10% DOWN
NEW SSH EXIT
LA MAREA, SN. PEDRO
LA RESIDENCIA, STA. ROSA
H&L P3M-PARANAQUE
Call GOLDWELL @ TELS
5517902 • 8337093
8346840 • 8346841

SAN JUAN

★ Greenhills West ★
Infront Xavier LA=728 FA=600 Res. / Comm'l 5 Story Bldg. Allowed (50 Units) 722-1832

CAVITE

LA MEDITERRANEA 2Stry 3Bdrm 1T&B LA110m² FA80m² P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

LAGUNA

ADELINA 1 3Bdrms LA183m² P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 3-5BR 15min Fr Mktl 0917-8159849

Bel Air Soho, 8-10T/mo Liza M/0920 7578922

MANILA

Ideal For Dormitory Nr UST w/Income 0917-5218338

LEON GUINTO
NEAR LA SALLE
Bnew/3Sty/3BR/3TB/grge
P3.460M 8903461 loc 34

Nr UST P3.6M 136FA 6453731

MANDALUYONG

Condo Best Location
0919-3938255 • 861-7899

PARANAQUE

•PALM GROVE P4.6M 3BR RFO Japan St. B Living 26% Off Cash
•BELLA VILLA P6.2M 3BR RFO Merville w/Amenities 41%Off Rent 2 Own T0916-8594925

PASIG

Crisanta Twr 115 Nice View 4.8M Neg. Call 645-3731

PASIG 2BR P2.7M 9128833

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

COMML/RESDL

ERA REAL ESTATE — LEASE OR SALE

CONDO/TOWNHOUSE

FOR AS LOW AS 1ST A MONTH

GREENHILLS/MANDALUYONG
- Governor's Place
- Wack Wack condo
- Gilmore Heights
- San Francisco Gardens

BOHOL AVE./ CAPITOL HILLS, Q.C.
- El Jardin del Presidente
- Golf Hill Terraces

FOR AS LOW AS 25T A MONTH

MAKATI CBD, SALCEDO
- Salcedo Park
- Manhattan Square
- One Lafayette Square
- Two Lafayette Square

OFFICE SPACE

MAKATI CBD, SALCEDO
- Petron MegaPlaza
- The World Centre
- Paseo Center
- Burgundy Corporate Center
- Citibank Tower
- PhilAXA Tower
- 139 Corporate Center
- Cityland Herrera Tower

ORTIGAS CBD, PASIG
- Richmonde Plaza
- Tektite Tower

BETH 0917-8479276
867-8913 to 17
www.ERAphilippines.com
A Global Network with Over 3,000 Offices Worldwide

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

2BR CONDO CUBAO 9120679

Cubao P1.4M 10%DP 9132224

Eastwood City Condo 21st Flr 46sqm 2.2M Neg. 910-65-77 • 0917-8986045

LOT

KALOOCAN

RAINBOW VILLAGE 5 LA216m² P3,703/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25

LAS PINAS

TALON 204m²@P4,500
639-1694 / 0917-8102903

MUNTINLUPA

SOUTH GREENHTS VILL 300m² fenced P3,833/m² Vic Gigie 8903461 loc 25/27

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

QUEZON CITY

ACROPOLIS 300;414SQM Rush P9M only 6337601-03

Cubao 1200 sqm 18T/sqm Neg Wide Road Call 6453731

NR LITEX Rd. 2.5 Hectares P300/sqm call 9330092

XavierVil 2 Nice Location 17T/per sqm Call 645-3731

RIZAL

Antipolo,Circumferential Rd com'l 108m² 0917-8102903

good 4 gas station Antipolo Sumulong 6391694 0917-8102903

OTHER AREAS

KINGSVILLE SUBD LA 397M² P4,250/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

RANCHO VISTA SUBD 613/m² P2,284/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240sqm P3,125/sqm Vic 8903461 Loc. 27

LAGUNA

MILLWOOD SUBD LA100m² P3,500/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m² LA240m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

OPEN HOUSE TODAY!

Baguio's Best
Rainbow's End
THE VILLAGE

FEATURES & AMENITIES:
19-hectare master planned Class AA subd., exclusive for (81) owners with 8 roving security, ample water.

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES:
Business Center, horse stables, hangar; Helipad, Japanese Tea House, Business & Fitness Centers

PROMO PRICE P5,040/sqm
P6,048 for the next 5 lots
P8,000 for the next 5 lots
P9,600 for the next 5 lots
P11,520 for the next 5 lots
20% increase thereafter for every 5 lots

FSDULALIA REALTY
Tel. No.
(02) 927-0620
(02) 929-2731
Cell No.
0917-8915519

PROVINCIAL

★TAGAYTAY BEST LOTS ★
Along H-way low dp/mo. 240m²-up morning sun Toll 658-8704

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

★ZAMBALES Mango Farm 7,9,10,30,68has 09192221766

ZAMBALES alg hway 3M 50+mango titled 09192221766

SAN MIGUEL LA4000m² P250/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

TAAL Btngs 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

★SUBIC back of CT Hall 46has.@200/m² 0919221766

RESORT

Pansol Hot Spring priv 7870543

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

BAGUIO

Transients/Live-In Seminars Kennon RD 4422020

HOUSE

MAKATI

SANLO DUPLEX 5269048/49

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

Mkti 2BR/Studio P9Tup w/tel Secu FreePrkg/NoDue 8979417

MANILA

1&2 BR NW CNDO NR LA SALLE TAFT T2558656 0918-9382922

VARIED AREAS

5 New Condo QC 8156172 9210808

APARTMENT

MANILA

Studio Fully Furn Malate nr DLSU ST. SCHO, PGH, PWU 523-5465

MANDALUYONG

Wack' Royal Mansion
1BR FF Aircon Prkg Cable Call Philip Tan • 813-2621

QUEZON CITY

1BR Katpnan 6815834/7275728

Cubao Std Lady 3.5 9124428

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

Near Lipa City Mataasnakahoy boundary with ofc., cr, kitchen & garage good for 7 delivery vans Tel # (043)461-0550 Alma (0920)539-3596 Jojo

BUSINESS RENTAL

PTAMO nr BUENDIA 1st Class bldg 62/129/148/185m² 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

---

ALLEGRO PACIFIC PHILS., INC. is an ISO 9001:2000 certified manufacturer-exporter of bags to top retailers in America for more than a decade now. We have recently opened our door to local market and is looking for:

COMMISSION AGENTS/DISTRIBUTORS
FOR CEBU & DAVAO

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
LETTER OF INTENT, BUSINESS / PERSONAL PROFILE, BANK & TRADE REFERENCES.
THOSE WITH CURRENT BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH DEPARTMENT STORES AND RETAILERS WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY.

For more details & inquiries, contact:
Mr. Fed P. Sapitan – fed@allegrophil.com
Ms. Marthie R. Castillo – marthie@allegrophil.com

Allegro Pacific Phils., Inc.
Multinational Vill. Access Road, Multinational Village, Parañaque City, 1700
Tel# 822 36 01 to 05 Fax# 822 36 08

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L Business Personal Gigie/Ernie 8903461 loc. 25/23

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL & OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE (42SQM UP TO 627SQM) 887-6003

ORTIGAS 85 107 150 300m² P250-350/m² 6337601-03

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

Bnew Condo near Mkt Med 1, 2, 3br PH 0918-3483808

APARTMENT FOR SALE/RENT

Ortigas 1-2-3BR • 520-0075

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HYUNDAI

99Starex 9s 460T 7233016

MITSUBISHI

97Galant VR6 390T 632-6749

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Land Cruiser Pajero Surf Pajero Safari Terrano Trooper Delica Hi-Town Ace T-In ok txpd w/warranty 8336644

MOTORCYCLE

YAMAHA DT125/98 P40T, (NEG) TEL#711-8080/731-5587

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

A B C CARS/VANS
NEW MODELS W/ OR W/O DRIVER
MLA HO 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C. BR 426-2278 • 426-4084

A.TOYCO UDRIVE W/ DRIVER CARS/VANS/RENTAL 8006595

BNEW URVAN 8252988

Bnew Van 8254058 8261045

HI-ACE/L3 4561218/9296250

★MB100★P700★7005799

SELFDRIVE W/DRIVER CARS VANS REVO COASTER BUS 8908667 • 8908668 • 8908669

L300 T7411356

MARIAN 8969956 CARS CSTER VANS BRDAL

P800/L3 9136710/4333682

PREGIO/HI-Ace 9320844

STAREX MB100 HIACE 8277135

VAN & BUS 9329259-5160

Van 0917-0620993 • 6421840

VAN RENTAL T941-2546

VANS 7118526 0917-3742317

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5 % EasyCarLoan 4000166 -67

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 6567685

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

APPLIANCES

SUNSAVER SOLAR
H²O HEATER 1st & Only Fully Integrated Solar H²o Heater (ICS) Integrated Collective System 100% Virgin Plastic Polymers NO CORROSION, No Rust Most Affordable. 414-6103 / 721-5781 to 87 Loc#255 0920-5372910 (Anthony)

BILLIARDS

22T New Complt SR Impld 7767507

HEALTH & BEAUTY

SALE! Imported Make Up Branded/Signature Perfume 0919-3983888/0919-2916776

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

Amphibious Excavator Backhoe Loader 8449500

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Whiteboard-Elec. 8449500

PETS

Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

GOLDEN RET PUPS 4265472

Golden Ret/Boomer P12TM 7210640/09208183573

Protect Your Lives and Properties! Have your Dogs Trained by the
PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Sale: Trained to Guard
Rott. J. Spitz
Tel No. 721-3736

Samoyed pure/2mo 8979417

WANTED TO BUY

B/SELL EDUCL PLAN 8061574

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
High Appraisal / Fast Cash
Repair / Polish Any watch
MANILA WATCH (Hyatt)
Tel 804-0484 • 834-2886
INTL. WATCH (Greenhills)
Tel 724-4374 • 0917-6984292

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES. BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

WE BUY GOLD
HIGHEST PRICE
CALL: 8390004
8390060

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
TANKFARM MANAGER
- Male, not more than 30 years old
- Chemical Engineering graduate
- Knowledge to supervise chemical tankfarm
- With good scholastic record from a reputable school

Bring resume w/ picture & transcript of records to:
5/F Bloomingdale Bldg.
#205 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Look for Mon David/ Ding Buatis/ Ariel Corpus

JOB HIRING
- CIVIL ENGINEER / ARCHITECT

25-35 years old; MALE; at least 3 to 5 years experience, with license
Call for an appointment at 805-53-23
* LAS PIÑAS *

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS

Wheelchair-Motorized Air Ionizer 8449500

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

3F BKPR ACTG GRAD 21-30 K&ASSOC STA. CRUZ MLA 2558656

F-ESCORT • 0916-4044479

Ofc Staf 09162107335 Tanya

MALE/FEMALE

Civil Engr./Estimator w/min. of 5-6 yrs. exp. 843-2596

CPA w/ Exp. 22-35 yrs.old fax Resume at 8870633

Direct hire Ofc Personnel /Mktg 18-45 Coll grad/level w/ w/o exp #4370454 Ms. Shie

DIRECT HIRING START ASAP! OFC/MKTG STAFF 18-50yo w/wo exp COL GRAD/U-GRAD call Tel.9134470 Mr. Peggy

FREE CARE GIVER TRAINING PROGRAM T521-27-73 404-35-28 589-99-58

HAIRDRESSER
MANICURIST
RECEPTIONIST
Call 895-6031 Loc 2011

HRD Staf 09169829251 OLIVE

HRD STF 09163564091 PEARL

HRD STF 09172789290 CINDY

HrdStf 0919-2535623 Glenda

HRDSTF LEAH 09193352395 LEAH

MGMT. STAFF 0920-8062187

Mktng Staff 18-45yrs old Col level grad 09205016387

OFF STAF 09196499747

SALES AGENTS
T633-1073

TRUCK SALESMAN experienced in food product an advantage Contact Roslyn 825-7061 / 820-1883

URGENT OFC MKTG STAFF 18-45 w/wo exp col level/grad direct hire 4752637 TRINA

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

MBTC STOCK CERT. 127130 1,185 SHS.n/o DAN T.DOMINGO

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that estate of the late Spouses Eduardo Taylor & Soledad Manzano Taylor consisting of property at Manila Memorial Park P'que MM was extrajudicially settled by their heirs per Doc.16658 Page54 Book 45 Series2003 before Atty. Danilo Banares of Mkti City. PDI-April 23,30 & May 7,2003

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late BENJAMIN LUNA BARGAS who died on October 27, 2002 in Makati City has been the subject of an extrajudicial settlement on April 21, 2003, by and among his heirs wherein they agreed to divide the estae accordingly, as evidenced in the document executed and acknowledged before Notary Public Gina C. Garcia of Makati City, and entered in her Notarial Registry as Doc. No. 238, Page No. 48, Book II, Series of 2003.
(PDI-Apr. 23, 30 & May 7, 2003)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Alfredo P. Casino was extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. No. 233, Page No. 48, Book No. XXXVIII, Series of 2003 of Notary Public Alfonso Y. Lacap of Pasig City
(PDI-April 23, 30, May 7, 2003)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

B/SELL FULLY PD EDUC PLAN 780-0106 / 0920-4188588

Earn & Travel 0917-8458644

Extra Income 09207002005

HK TRADE FINANCER, DETAILS, TO-222888@MAIL.COM

LEARN AND EARN MONEY IN REAL PROPERTY BUSINESS CALL/TEXT 0920-2865942

PART-TIME BUSINESS 0918-9441234

Teen Adultwear 09167940002

POEA
24-HR HOTLINES
722-1144
722-1155

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Davao
CITY OF PANABO
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR
TeleFax: (084) 628-5284 / 822-2179
E-mail: cityofpanabo@yahoo.com

Invitation for Bids

Date : 28 April 2003
Contract Identification No.: PCE-001
World Bank Loan No.: 4228 PH
World Bank Loan Name: WDDP-USSP

1. Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of Water District Development Project – Urban Sewerage, Sanitation and Drainage Component (WDDP-USSP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payment under the contract for City Government of Panabo's Barangay Environmental and Sanitation Plan (BESP).
2. The City Government of Panabo, Davao del Norte, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of drainage equipment. This equipment will be used for the operation and maintenance of sanitation and drainage facilities, which is describe below:

Item No.	Description	Quantity
1	Vacuum Tanker, 3 cu.m. capacity (minimum), trailer mounted	1 each

3. Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the office of the Mayor and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below during office hours.
5. A complete set of bididng documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Philippine Pesos One Thousand (PhP1,000.00) in cash or manager's cheque in favor to the City Treasurer's Office of Panabo City.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., 29 May 2003. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of US$6,000 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency and shall be valid for 120 days after bid opening. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below at 2:00 p.m. 29 May 2003.
7. The Purchaser reserves the right to accept or reject any bids, and to cancel the bidding process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders or any obligation to inform the affected Bidder or Bidders of the grounds for the Purchaser's action.

Name and Office Address of the Purchaser:

c/o: **Engr. Zolio C. Gudin Jr.**
CPDC/PMU COORDINATOR/SBAC Secretariat
City of Panabo
Province of Davao del Norte
Telephone: (084) 628-5291
Telefax: (084) 822-2262

(Sgd.) **REY P. GAVINA**
City Mayor/SBAC Chairman

(PDI–April 30, 2003)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

TRANSCO INTEGRATED TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM

In order to provide new graduates of engineering and technical/vocational courses the opportunity to acquire actual experience in the field of electrical power transmission, the **National Transmission Corporation (TransCo)**, created by virtue of Republic Act 9136 (the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001) is a government-owned and controlled corporation that has assumed the electrical transmission functions in the major Philippine grids, announces the offering of its **Integrated Traineeship Program**, specifically the **Cadetship** and **Apprenticeship** Programs for year 2003.

- **Cadetship Program** - on the job training for a period of six (6) months program for graduates of Electrical and Electronics & Communication engineering courses.
- **Apprenticeship Program** - on the job training for a period of six (6) months for graduates of technical/vocational courses (Technician, Electrician, Mechanic, Lineman).

Qualification/Requirements:

1. Not more than twenty five (25) years of age
2. Residents of Metro Manila
3. Must pass the TransCo psychological examination for Apprenticeship Program
4. Must pass the TransCo psychological and technical examinations for Cadetship Program
5. Official Transcript of Records (no failing grades in major subjects)

Interested applicants should personally apply and accomplish application form at **Human Resource Training Division**, Human Resources Department, Ground Floor, Power Center Building, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City from **May 5 to 16, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.**

For Cadetship Program, only those who pass the psychological examination will be qualified to take the technical examination scheduled on **May 31, 2003 (Saturday).**

HUMAN RESOURCE TRAINING DIVISION
Human Resources Department
Power Center Building, Diliman, Quezon City
Telephone No. 922-5873

(PDI - Apr. 27, 30 & May 4, 2003)

Office of the President

BCDA

Bases Conversion Development Authority

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

ASSET DISPOSITION PROGRAM – PHASE 2

The Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) is inviting interested proponents to participate in Phase 2 of BCDA's Asset Disposition Program (ADP Phase 2). ADP Phase 2 involves the development and privatization of the following BCDA properties:

- Twenty-five (25) hectares located at Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila, bounded on the north by American Battle Monument and east by C-5; and
- Five (5) hectares located at the former Camp Bago Bantay, Brgy. Sto. Cristo, Bago-Bantay, Quezon City between SM City Annex and Mindanao Avenue.

Interested proponents may submit their Letters of Interest to BCDA and can purchase the Terms of Reference (TOR) for ADP Phase 2 that outlines, among others, the requirements for proponents interested to participate in the privatization.

The TORs for the above properties will be ready for distribution to interested proponents by 23 April 2003 at the BCDA offices at a non-refundable cost of Php10,000.00 for each TOR, payable to BCDA in Cash or Manager's Check.

A pre-qualification conference among interested proponents is set for 2:00 p.m., 07 May 2003. The objective of the pre-qualification conference is to discuss the property, the TOR and other issues that may be raised by interested proponents.

Interested proponents can direct their inquiries to Ms. Aileen An. R. Soza or Ms. Bambie L. Andal at telephone numbers 510-0420 to 510-0411 or at arzosa@bcda.gov.ph or blandal@bcda.gov.ph

(Sgd.) RUFO COLAYCO
President and Chief Executive Officer

(PDI – April 16, 23 & 30, 2003)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 90, QUEZON CITY

IN RE: PETITION FOR
CORPORATE REHABILITATION OF –
SPECIAL PROCEEDING NO: Q.-03-047
SERENITY MEMORIAL PARK, INC.,
Petitioner.
x - x

STAY ORDER

Before this court is a verified petition/application for rehabilitation filed by the above-named petitioner:

Briefly, the petitioner contends that on the basis of projected market conditions for the next five (5) years, it has a good chance of being rehabilitated. The rehabilitation plan calls for the increase in sales through an aggressive marketing sales force, the improvement and full development of the Serenity Memorial Park project in Caloocan City to attract more buyers within the community, the development and operation of its two (2) Davao City properties as memorial parks, the restructuring of its GSIS loan of PHP 200,000,000.00 (principal amount), the adoption of a more aggressive approach geared towards the extensive collection of its receivables, among other things. Consequently, the petitioner prays for the issuance of a Stay Order pending proceedings before this Court.

A careful examination of the petition shows that it conforms substantially with Section 2, Rule 4 of the Interim Rules of Procedure on Corporate Rehabilitation (see also Supreme Court Resolution *en banc* in A.M. No. 00-8-10-SC). This Court therefore finds the petition to be sufficient in form and substance.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, this Court issues a Stay Order, in accordance with Section 6, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules, as follows:

1.) Appointing Mr. Rodolfo F. Salanga, a certified public accountant by profession, as rehabilitation receiver who shall be considered as an officer of the court and who shall have the powers, duties and functions as provided in Section 14, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules. The rehabilitation receiver must post a bond of PHP1,000,000.00 before entering upon his powers, duties and functions and must take an oath, as provided under Section 15, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules. The petitioner is directed to serve immediately a copy of this Stay Order upon the rehabilitation receiver, Mr. Rodolfo F. Salanga who shall manifest his acceptance or non-acceptance of his appointment not later than (10) days from receipt hereof;

2.) Staying enforcement of all claims, whether for money or otherwise and whether such enforcement is by court action or otherwise, against the petitioner, and its guarantors and sureties not solidarily liable with the petitioner including the staying of proceedings of collection cases filed against the petitioner, and the staying of the enforcement/implementation of application/s for extra-judicial foreclosure sale/s and actual foreclosure sale/s, if any, against the real and personal properties of the petitioner;

3.) Prohibiting the petitioner from selling, encumbering, transferring, or disposing in any manner any of its properties except in the ordinary course of business;

4.) Prohibiting the petitioner from making any payment of its liabilities outstanding as at the date of the filing of the Petition (April 2, 2003);

5.) Prohibiting the suppliers of the petitioner from withholding supply of goods and services in the ordinary course of business for as long as the petitioner makes payments for the services and goods supplied after the issuance of this Stay Order;

6.) Directing the petitioner to pay in full all administrative expenses incurred after the issuance of this Stay Order.

The initial hearing on the petition is set on **May 27, 2003 at 2:00 PM** at the session room of Branch 90 of this Court located at the Ground Floor of the Hall of Justice Building, Quezon City Hall complex, Quezon City. All creditors and all interested parties including the Securities and Exchange Commission are directed to file with this Court and serve upon the petitioner a verified comment on or opposition to the petition, with supporting affidavits and documents, not later than ten (10) days before the date of the initial hearing as set forth above, and they are put on notice that their failure to do so will bar them from participating in the proceedings before this Court. All creditors and all interested parties are further directed to secure from this Court copies of the petition and its annexes within such time as to enable them to file their verified comment on or opposition to the petition and to prepare them for the initial hearing of the petition, and to attain this purpose, the petitioner is ordered to file with this Court initially fifteen (15) additional copies of the petition and its annexes within ten (10) days from receipt hereof.

The petitioner is furthermore directed by this Court to publish a copy of this Order in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, and one other newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines with widespread circulation in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao if it is a newspaper other than the herein-named newspaper, considering the presence of creditors and the location of properties in Luzon and Mindanao as alleged in the petition, **once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks**, with the last publication effected at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of initial hearing as set forth above, for wider dissemination to all interested persons, at the expense of the petitioner.

The Process Server of this Court is ordered to serve immediately copies of this Stay Order upon; 1) Mr. Marcelino F. Cuan (the duly authorized representative/official of the petitioner), No. 22 Maaralin Street, Diliman, Quezon City; 2) Atty. Ernesto C. Perez, Suite 507, ALPAP II Building, Trade Street corner Investment Drive, Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, 1770 Muntinlupa City; 3) Mr. Rodolfo F. Salanga, 146 G. Diaz Street, BF Resort Village, Las Piñas City; 4) the Honorable Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, EDSA (Epifanio De Los Santos Avenue), Mandaluyong, Metro Manila.

SO ORDERED

Quezon City, April 8, 2003

(Sgd). **REYNALDO B. DAWAY**
Presiding Judge

(PDI - April 30 & May 6, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A REDUCTION IN RATES IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 60 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9136 AND EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 119, WITH PRAYER FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY

ERC CASE NO. 2003-14

PANGASINAN I ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC. (PANELCO I)
Applicant
x - x

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

Notice is hereby given of the filing by applicant Pangasinan I Electric Cooperative Inc. (PANELCO I) on February 14, 2003 of an application for the approval of a reduction in rates in compliance with Section 60 of Republic Act No. 9136 and Executive Order No. 119, with prayer for provisional authority, docketed as ERC Case No. 2003-14. The applicant proposed a reduction in rates equivalent to P 0.29957/kWh as a result of the condonation of its debts in accordance with R.A. 9136 and Executive Order No. 119.

The Commission has set the application for hearing on May 22, 2003 at two-thirty (2:30 P.M.) in the afternoon at Rock Garden Resort, Arnido, Bolinao, Pangasinan.

All interested parties who may wish to comment on or oppose the said application should file their comments and/or oppositions on or before the date of hearing. Such parties who may wish to have the details of the application and who shall have manifested to the Commission their desire and intention to participate actively in the proceedings, may request that before the date of hearing, they be furnished with copies of the application by the applicant, which is hereby directed to furnish the parties making such request with copies of the application and its attachments. Likewise, any such interested party may examine the application and other pertinent records filed with the Commission during the usual office hours.

WITNESS, the Honorables **LETICIA V. IBAY, MARY ANNE B. COLAYCO, OLIVER B. BUTALID**, and **CARLOS R. ALINDADA**, Commissioners, Energy Regulatory Commission, this 21st day of March, 2003 at Pasig City.

(Sgd.) FRUCTUOSO C. LAGUINZAD, JR.
Executive Director III

(PDI – April 23 & 30, 2003)

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
OF
ANAM INSTRUMENTS (PHILIPPINES), INC.

Notice is hereby given that **ANAM INSTRUMENTS (PHILIPPINES), INC.** will file with the Securities and Exchange Commission a Certificate of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation shortening its corporate life to March 31, 2003.

Any person who may have a claim against said corporation may present the same to the undersigned at c/o ALPAP 1 Bldg., 5th Floor, 140 L.P. Leviste Street, Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City.

This announcement serves as notice to all parties concerned of the dissolution of said Company.

(Sgd.) **RENATO G. CALMA**
Corporate Secretary
ANAM INSTRUMENTS (PHILIPPINES), INC.

(PDI–April 16, 23 & 30, 2003)

Opportunity knocks but once.
JOB MARKET
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Republic of the Philippines
City of Parañaque
Metro Manila

Office of the Treasurer

NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

To satisfy the real estate tax deliquency of the following taxpayers, computation of which includes interest, surcharges and penalties thereon as of December 31, 2002 and after substantially complying with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act. 7160, the City Mayor through the undersigned City Treasurer, hereby gives notice to all interested parties and to the public in general that on **May 7, 2003 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning at the Legislative Building 2nd Floor City Hall of Parañaque City**, the City Treasurer or his authorized representatives will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash and in Philippine Currency, the real estate properties described below:

Declared Owner / Location	Area (Sqm.)	Classification / Delqcy Yr.	Tax Dec. Numbers	Amount of Delinquency	Interest Due as of March, 2003	Total Amt. of Delinquency
1. Edwin Olivarez Lot-15-A-Blk.-101 Bresbane St. Phase 3 Bgy. B.F. Homes		Res. Imp. 1996-2002	E001-00436	94,942.40	60,220.59	155,162.99
2. Sps. Pablo Olivarez and Rosario De Leon TCT-(S-26159) 94983 Lot-4734-A Bgy. B.F. Homes	7,557	Others Rawland 1988-2002	E001-00888	163,775.40	132,485.67	296,261.07
3. Olivarez Realty Corp. Cinema 1 & 2 Balcony Lobby Projector Room Stalls Corridor Parking Space Lot-2-E, 2-F Bgy. San Dionisio	 1,796.87 827.40 181.12 54 1,717.25 658.75 1,529.50	Com. Imp. 1996-2002	E010-02952	4,044,658.80	2,565,469.26	6,610,128.06
4. Pablo Olivarez Warehouse Office Sucat Road Bgy. San Dionisio	1,530 7,498 3,905	Ind. Bldg. (Uniwide Imp.) 1989-2002	E010-05999	7,795,333.60	8,511,336.76	16,306,670.36
5. Pablo Olivarez Bgy. San Dionisio		Ind. Imp. 1986-2002	E010-06332	1,969,783.20	2,422,284.94	4,392,068.14
6. Olivarez General Hospital. Sucat Road Bgy. San Dionisio		Hospital 1986-2002	E010-06635	103,831.50	138,713.59	242,545.09
7. Esteban Cruz TCT No. (S-50780) Olivarez Realty Corp. TCT - (111761) - 132125 Pablo R. Olivarez & Sps. Rosario DL. Olivarez TCT-(111762)- 48395 TCT-(111763) - 20359 Dr. A. Santos Ave. Bgy. San Isidro	19,390 11,413 3,455 4,522	Land. Com. (Uniwide) Comm'l. Land Com. Land Com. Land 1996-2002	E011-03611	5,497,065.00	3,402,945.00	8,900,010.00
8. Pablo & Rosario Olivarez, 1st Floor 2nd Floor Bgy. San Dionisio	2,520 280 280	Warehouse 1993-2002	E010-07632	2,804,928.00	1,851,252.43	4,656,180.43
				Sub-Total		41,559,026.14
9. Ma. Hilda C. Badong TCT-116855 Bgy. Moonwalk	600	Land. Res. 2001-2002	E008-06732	5,760.00	2,419.20	8,179.20
10. Ma. Hilda C. Badong Bgy. Moonwalk		Bldg. Res. 1990-2002	E008-06733	160,379.36	155,312.64	315,692.00
11. People's Air Cargo & Warehousing Co. Inc. Warehouse 1st Flr. Office Second Floor Third Floor Tower Locker Shed Parking Bgy. Sto. Niño	 171,160 3,932 3,932 350 475 2,400 17,678.01	Com. Impv. 1997-2002	E013-03548	23,637,065.40	14,654,980.56	38,292,045.96
12. Apolinario Nery Bgy. Sn Martin De Porres		1994-2002	E012-04110	165,240.00	106,822.80	272,062.80
13. Precillano G. Santos TCT-37988 Santos Compound Bgy. Don Bosco	5,724	Land Res. 1979-2002	E003-01273	278,392.80	287,989.68	566,382.48
				Sub-Total		39,454,362.44

(Sgd.) **LIBERATO M. CARABEO**
City Treasurer

(PDI – April 23 & 30, 2003)

Philippine Economic Zone Authority
Bataan Economic Zone

Tel. Nos. (047) 935-4004; (047) 561-2451; (047) 935-5002
Fax Nos. (047) 935-6046; E-Mail: bez@unet.net.ph
Website : www.peza.gov.ph

28 April 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the project as listed below:

Name of Project : **REHABILITATION OF SFB NOS. 3, 5, 6 & 11**
Location : BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan

Prospective bidders must be duly licensed by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) and registered as "Medium B" for buildings by the Inter-Agency Committee for Registration and Classification of Contractors for Government Infrastructure projects. Eligibility requirements/forms will be made available to Contractors upon submission of the below listed required documents at the BAC Secretariat, EMD Office, 2nd Floor, BEZ Administration Building, BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan, as follows:

1. Letter of Intent
2. Certificate of Contractor's Renewal from PCAB and License (Bring Original copy for authentication purposes)

The particulars and schedule of activities for the bidding process are listed below:

Name of Project	Issuance and Price of Eligibility Forms	Deadline for submission of accomplished eligibility forms	Issuance of Bid Documents	Price of Non-refundable fee for bid Documents	Approved Budget for the Contract	Duration of Contract	Pre-Bid Conference	Submission and Opening of Bids
Rehabilitation of SFB Nos. 3, 5, 6 & 11	Php200.00 May 5-9, 2003 BAC Secretariat, BMD off 2nd Flr BEZ Admin Bldg.	May 14, 2003 5:00 P.m. BAC Secretariat, EMD off. 2nd Flr BEZ Admin. Bldg	May 26-28, 2003 BAC Secretariat, EMD off 2nd Flr BEZ Admin Bldg.	Php 3,000.00 Finance Div. Grd. Flr BEZ Admin. Bldg.	Php 22,604,020.00	365 Calendar days	June 5, 2003 2:00 P.M. Audio-Visual Rm. 2nd Flr., BEZ Admin. Bldg	June 23, 2003 2:00 P.M. Audio-Visual Rm. 2nd Flr BEZ Admin. Bldg.

SCOPE OF WORK:

1. Re-roofing
2. Rehab/repair of comfort rooms
3. Plumbing works (water & sewer lines, fixtures & fittings)
4. Repainting of exterior and interior walls
5. Fire lighting equipment and accessories
6. Tileworks, window frames, glass and glazing
7. Electrical works
8. Replacement of ceiling caves downspoute
9. Other repair works

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Generator, two (2) units (owned)
2. Welding machine two (2) units (owned)

The two (2) envelope system shall be adopted and the provisions of Executive Order No. 40, Series of 2001 and its implementing Rules and Regulations shall apply in the bidding.

For further particulars, please contact Ms. Catalina C. Desamito/Engr. Aniceto P. Gonzales, BAC Secretariat, EMD Office, 2nd Floor, BEZ Administration Building, BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan or at Tel. No. (047) 935-4008.

The PEZA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect or informality contained therein and to accept and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to the government. The PEZA neither assumes any obligation for any loss whatsoever that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **DIONISIO T. SAMEN**
Chairperson, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI–April 30 & May 7, 2003)

www.jobmarketonline.com

NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
The choice of the country's most discriminating families over the last 103 years.
#264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 7135231 to 35; 7140867-68
Fax No. 714-0865

OBITUARIES

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

"Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you."
Psalm 56:3

GENEDINA G. HABITO

of Malinao, Pasig City

Peacefully joined her Creator
on Sunday, 27th of April 2003 at the age of 52.

Her beloved husband **Alberto C. Habito**; daughter **Rosalyn G. Habito**; mother **Consolacion Gatchalian**; sisters **Baby** and **Elvie**; brothers **Tony, Raul, Eduardo, Reynaldo, Wilfredo, Rufino Jr.**; sisters-in-law **Ellen, Mila, Susan, Tessie,** and **Jay**; **cousins, nephews** and **nieces** request fervent prayers and special petitions for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Arlington East, C. Raymundo Street corner Mercedes Avenue, San Miguel, Pasig City.

Interment will take place on Saturday, 3rd of May 2003 at Pasig Catholic Cemetery following the 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at Arlington East The Garden Chapels.

Dr. Ramon "Boy" Villagracia Blancia, Sr.

Has joined his Creator on April 24, 2003
at the age of 68.

Former Constitutional Convention Delegate 1971
Former Assemblyman, Sangguniang Pampook Region IX 1978-1986
University of Santo Tomas College of Medicine Graduate Class 1958

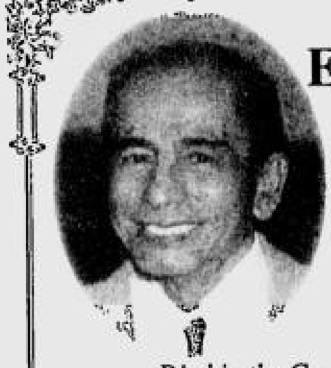
His loving wife
Former Mayor Encarnacion "Encar" Ortega Blancia
Sons and Daughters-in-law
Dr. Ramon "Junjie" O. Blancia, Jr. & Dr. Ma. Rovel Adolfo Blancia
Dr. Ramcarl "Am" O. Blancia & Via Marquez Blancia
Daughter,
Blanche Lou "Blanche" O. Blancia
Grand Daughters,
Cheska Roraine Blancia, Alyanna Erika Blancia and Nicole Blancia
Pelagio A. Blancia and Lourdes V. Blancia (deceased parents)

Sisters and Brothers-in-law
Dr. Fely "Baby" & Jesus "Boy" Bajamunde, Sr.
Osita "Chit" & Valentin "Val" La Viña
Liberty "Bert" & Atty. Arsenio "Jun" Gonzalez, Jr.
Gloria "Glor" & the late Jaime "Jimmy" Atilano

Relatives & Friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Blancia residence, Molave, Zamboanga del Sur.

Interment will be on May 3, 2003 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.



ENGINEER LEONARDO CABAUATAN NUESA

United Nations Expert and Ministry Expert,
Ministry of Communications Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
and formerly Materials Research Engineer
of then Bureau of Public Highways

Died in the Grace of our Lord on April 26, 2003 at the age of 85.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

His loving wife **ANTONIA**; his children **AQUILINA & HUGHIE, BENJAMIN & GLORIA, LETICIA & STEPHEN, BELLA & CARL, CARLO & MYRNA** with his grandchildren **DOMINIC, EVE ANTONETTE, KYLE, ALEX, VALERIE** and **BERNARD**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will be announced later.

ERNESTO MATEO AQUINO

(November 7, 1935 – April 28, 2003)

of Batangas City

Peacefully joined our Lord at the age of 67.

His beloved wife **Magdalena Evangelio**; children **Joseph, Rafael, Thaddeus, Benedict, Erma** and **Johanna**; daughters-in-law **Cristy, Josie** and **Vanessa**; siblings **Francisco** (†), **Emiliano Jr., Jose, Lourdes, Antonio** and **Manolo**; grandchildren, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul

His body lies in state at the Basilica of the Immaculate Concepcion, Batangas City.

Interment will be in the morning of May 2, 2003.

SANTIAGO "Badjie" M. CASTRO, JR.

Peacefully joined our Creator
on April 27, 2003 at the age of 47.

A loving husband to his wife **Resty**; responsible father to his children and children-in-law **Sarah & Mike, Joy, Nicky & Janice,** and **Mark** and a sweet "Papa" to his granddaughter **Angel Athena**. One of the funeral directors of La Funeraria Paz, Inc. who have served the company for 18 years.

His body lies in state at Imperial Chapel of La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Cremation will take place on Thursday, May 1, 2003 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at La Funeraria Paz Crematory.

MOM, YOU ARE DEARLY MISSED BUT YOU'LL STAY FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS!

FE R. ACEBEDO

August 11, 1932 – April 30, 2001
On her 2nd Death Anniversary

Loving husband **Mike**; daughters, **Grace, Gigi, Tiny**; son, **Jojo & Joey** and relatives request the readers to pray for eternal repose of her soul.

Masses will be offered at the following:

Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene	9:00 a.m.
Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth & The Life	5:30 p.m.
Nuestra Sra. De Guia	12:15 p.m.
Our Lady of Remedies	7:00 a.m.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

CLASSIFIEDS

Republic of the Philippines
Procurement Service
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The PROCUREMENT SERVICE (PS) invites G-EPS registered suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BOND AND COPY PAPER FOR THE PS Stocks.

The approved budget for this contract is P14,756,500.00.

All interested parties are invited to attend the Pre-Bid Conference that will be held on May 13, 2003, 1:30 PM, Tuesday, at the PS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, PS Complex, Cristobal St. Paco, Manila.

The bid documents shall be available at the PS-PURCHASING DIVISION starting April 30, 2003 upon payment of non-refundable fee of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 1,500.00).

The bidders shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes in the bid box located at the Office of the Head of the IABAC Secretariat at the above mentioned address. Deadline for submission and opening of bids shall be on May 29, 2003 at 1:30 P.M. Thursday.

For more information, please call the PS-Purchasing Division at telephone nos. 563-94-02 or 563-93-74.

PS reserves the right to waive any formality in the responses to the eligibility requirements and to this invitation. PS further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurances that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) EDUARDO P. OPIDA
Chairman, IABAC

(PDI – April 30, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Procurement Service
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **PROCUREMENT SERVICE (PS)** invites G-EPS registered suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MECHANICAL STAMPING MACHINE for the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).**

The approved budget for this contract is **P2,850,000.00.**

All interested parties are invited to attend the **Pre-Bid Conference** that will be held on **May 13, 2003, 9:30 A.M. Tuesday, at the PS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, PS Complex, Cristobal-St. Paco, Manila.**

The bid documents shall be available at the **PS-PURCHASING DIVISION** starting **April 30, 2003** upon payment of non-refundable fee of **One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00).**

The bidders shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes in the bid box located at the Office of the Head of the IABAC Secretariat at the above mentioned address. Deadline for submission and opening of bids shall be on **May 29, 2003 at 9:30 A.M., Thursday.**

For more information, please call the **PS-Purchasing Division** at telephone nos **563-94-02 or 563-93-74.**

PS reserves the right to waive any formality in the responses to the eligibility requirements and to this invitation. PS further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurances that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) EDUARDO P. OPIDA
Chairman, IABAC

(PDI – April 30, 2003)

GIA

Thailand Campus

Learn from the world's #1 gemological institute
70 year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

Gain professionalism with gems
From the world's leading authority

Colored Stones Diploma Program
starts July 21, 2003

GIA Thailand Since 1993

Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77
giathai@ksc15.th.com
Fax: (662) 236-9829
www.giathailand.com

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Louie C. Camino

Boob-tube booboos

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

HOST: I hear you have some foreign blood?

Starlet: Yes, that's true.

Host: Can you tell us the mix?

Starlet: Oh, OK. Well, I'm half Italian, half American and half Filipino!

(There's one and a half of you—congratulations!)

***

Host: Why did you break up with your boyfriend?

Guest: It's because sometimes he acts like he's very embarrassed to the people of who am I!

(We wonder why!)

***

Host: Do you know how SARS is communicated from person to person?

Guest: Scientifically, research shows that *malamang* it's through airborne.

(How—scientific!)

***

Host: How do you describe your painting style?

Artist: As you can see, it's characterized by colors, but sometimes there are colors and then not so color!

(Duh!)

***

Host: I love this cabinet you've made. It must have taken a long time to carve.

Guest: Yes, you can see it by the intricacy of the carve!

(Uh, please repeat?)

***

Host: How do you plan to conduct your new singing contest?

Guest: It's very simple. The young people would render singing.

(That's really simple!)

***

Host: How old were you when you started singing?

Guest: I started at only third years old!

(*Ano daw?*)

***

Host: Why do you do outreach shows in the province?

Guest: Because we want to go closer to the people—*'yun ang* porpoise *doon*!

(*Ay*, porpoise!)

***

Host: How should we keep our skin looking fresh and young like yours?

Guest: You just have to eat and use natural products. And you have to be disciplined about your skin regiment!

(Atten—shun!)

***

Host: What motto or belief do you live by?

Guest: Any and all, *basta sabi ng* biblical!

(*Ay*, biblical!)

'International Correspondents'

AIRING every weekend on CNN, "International Correspondents" is a unique program where the global media is put in the spotlight to analyze coverage of the week's top news stories.

By questioning a panel of print and broadcast journalists, the program scrutinizes the media's fairness and objectivity, and looks at the challenges journalists face in reporting from all over the world, even from war zones.

This month, the show has brought together some of the world's leading international journalists, including representatives from the BBC, Al Jazeera, the New Straits Times in Malaysia, The News in Pakistan, Tempo Magazine in Indonesia, the Indian Express newspaper and Phoenix TV, to look at how their local media has been covering the war in Iraq.

Acoustic Nights at Onstage

ON May 1, Viva Concerts opens the Smart Acoustic season at Onstage with Freestyle, with Ogie Alcasid as special guest. The Freestyle show continues on May 2, and on May 3, the guests are Malik and Bituin Escalante.

South Border takes over on may 9 and 10, with Anna Fegi and Nina. Side A is on tap on May 16 and 17.

On May 23 and 24, Paolo Santos is given the showcase he deserves, with Barbie Amalbis and Nina. And Side A returns to bring the month-long series to a close on May 30 and 31.

DID YOU KNOW...

Seen chatting over dinner at Summer Palace, the Chinese Restaurant at Edsa Shangri-La hotel, were **Sen. Loren Legarda** and movie queen Susan Roces. Were they talking about politics? Do we see an FPJ-Loren tandem in the 2004 elections? Loren and Susan are *magkumare*, having been principal sponsors in the recent wedding of **Ruffa Gutierrez** and **Yilmaz Bektas**.

NETJETS
InStyle

SHAPE OF SHIELDS

A pregnant Brooke Shields arrives at a gala honoring producer Brad Grey in Beverly Hills, California. The former star of the now-defunct TV sitcom "Suddenly Susan" is married to scriptwriter Chris Henchy. She is scheduled to give birth in May.

AP PHOTO

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7	
Ali 1	XEREX
Ali 2	TILL THERE WAS YOU
Ali 3	JOHNNY ENGLISH
Ali 4	X-MEN 2
Ali 5	X-MEN 2
Ali 6	PHONE BOOTH
Ali 7	EQUILIBRIUM
FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS	
Farmers 1	X-MEN 2
Farmers 2	XEREX
ARANETA COLISEUM	
APR 30	NCA 7 COCK DERBY
MAY 4	PBA GAMES
MAY 9 & 10	MARTIN & REGINE CONCERT

ELEPHANT WORLD
FUN RIDES, TAGADISCO•VIKING SHIP -4PM(DAILY)
ELEPHANT SHOW & RIDE RE-OPEN
THURSDAY, MAY 1 5PM & 6PM

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	PUNLA
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	PUNLA
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	PUNLA
B	BOLD STAR
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
CINEMA-2	THE JUNGLE BOOK 2
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	TILL THERE WAS YOU
CINEMA-2	BOLD STAR
CINEMA-3	A MAN APART
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-6	TILL THERE WAS YOU
CINEMA-7	ANGER MANAGEMENT
CINEMA-8	PUNLA
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	JOHNNY ENGLISH
CINEMA-12	TILL THERE WAS YOU
CINEMA-14	TILL THERE WAS YOU
CINEMA-15	XEREX
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	DIE ANOTHER DAY
CINEMA 2	BAHID
CINEMA 3	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA 4	CHANGING LANES
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND•EX

JOHNNY ENGLISH P13 1:00,3:00,5:00, 7:00,9:00	X-MEN 2 P13 11:45,2:45, 5:45,8:45	SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE - R18 12:20,2:20,4:20 X-MEN 2 - P13 6:20,9:20
X-MEN 2 P13 12:55,3:55, 6:55,9:55	ANGER MANAGEMENT R13 1:00,3:15,5:30, 7:45,10:00	X-MEN 2 P13 1:30,4:30, 7:30,10:30

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND•EX
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1
X-MEN 2
11:10, 1:40, 4:20,
7:00, 9:40, 11:00
PG13
ADVANCE SELLING:P150

CINEMA 2
ANGER MANAGEMENT
11:20, 1:40, 4:00
6:20, 8:40
R13

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM

MAY 2, 2003	A WALK TO REMEMBER	9:00PM
MAY 16 & 17, 2003	"KUH HITS BACK" (Kuh Ledesma)	9:00PM

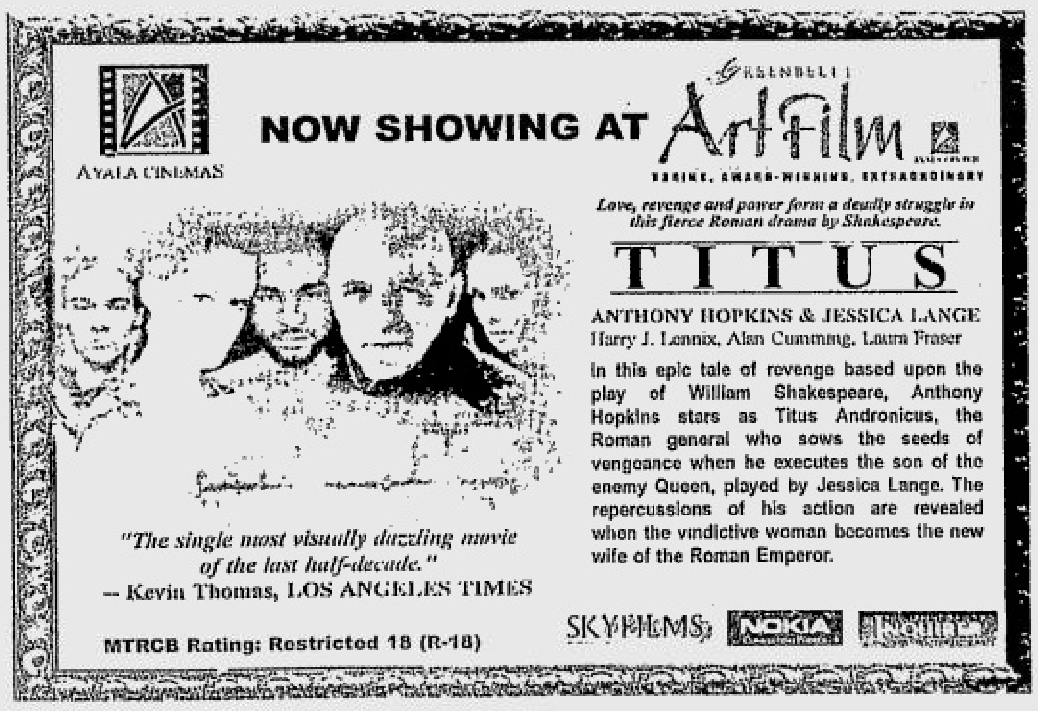
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

OPENS TODAY AT ALL AYALA CINEMAS
AYALA CINEMAS
20th CENTURY FOX
X-MEN 2
THE EVOLUTION BEGINS
Reserve your seats by texting "SURESEATS G4" or "SURESEATS GB3" and send to 2333.
Or log on to www.sureseats.com

GLORIETTA 1 (formerly QUAD)
Cinema 3 - 12:55, 3:45, 6:35, 9:25
Cinema 4 - 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
GLORIETTA 4
Cinema 1 - 1:05, 3:55, 6:45, 9:35
Cinema 2 - 10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
Cinema 3 (THX/GSC) - 11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40
Cinema 6 - 12:00, 2:50, 5:40, 8:30, 11:20
GREENBELT 1
Cinema 2 - 12:05, 2:55, 5:45, 8:35

GREENBELT 3
Cinema 1 (THX / GSC) - 2:35, 5:30, 8:25, 11:20
Cinema 2 (THX / GSC) - 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40
Cinema 3 (GSC) - 12:20, 3:15, 6:10, 9:05, 12:00
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Cinema 1 (THX) - 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00
Cinema 2 - 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35
Cinema 3 - 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25

Schedules are subject to change without prior notice.
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)
Check out all the cool X-men collectibles and memorabilia at myGlobe X2 Exhibit Booths exclusively at Ayala Cinemas in Greenbelt 1, Greenbelt 3, Glorietta 4 and Alabang Town Center.
Special Thanks to:


AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING AT Greenbelt 1 ArtFilm
DARING, AWARD-WINNING, EXTRAORDINARY
Love, revenge and power form a deadly struggle in this fierce Roman drama by Shakespeare.
TITUS
ANTHONY HOPKINS & JESSICA LANGE
Harry J. Lennix, Alan Cumming, Laura Fraser
In this epic tale of revenge based upon the play of William Shakespeare, Anthony Hopkins stars as Titus Andronicus, the Roman general who sows the seeds of vengeance when he executes the son of the enemy Queen, played by Jessica Lange. The repercussions of his action are revealed when the vindictive woman becomes the new wife of the Roman Emperor.
"The single most visually dazzling movie of the last half-decade."
-- Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R-18)
SKYFILMS NOKIA

Viva Concerts brings you...
Acoustic night out at ONSTAGE
May 1, 2 & 3
Freestyle with Bituin, Chedi, Nina, Malik & Ogie Alcasid
May 16, 17, 30 & 31
Side A with Special Guests
May 23 & 24
PAOLO SANTOS
SIDE A
A SERIES OF UNPLUGGED LOCAL MUSIC
MANILA BULLETIN
RX93.1
VIVA

John braves SARS fear, goes to Canada to be with Vanessa

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

DESPITE the SARS scare in Canada, **John Estrada** left the country during Holy Week to be with his lady love, **Vanessa del Bianco**, in Toronto.

Vanessa returned to Canada after the Bureau of Immigration listed her as an "illegal alien" for working in the Philippines without a permit. Although Vanessa has Filipino roots, she is a Canadian citizen.

John has never admitted any romantic relationship with Vanessa, who is said to be the cause of the breakup of his 10-year marriage to **Janice de Belen**. But when he appeared on a recent episode of "Sharon," John defended Vanessa, who has been getting bad press despite her absence in local show biz. He pleaded with some writers to please stop involving Vanessa in the "sins" he has committed.

"She is a very nice person," John said on Sharon's show. "She doesn't deserve this."

John is expected to be back this week to resume his hosting chores on ABS-CBN's noontime show "Masayang Tanghali, Bayan" and taping for the soap "Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay."

For John's own safety and also for the safety of his co-workers in the network, he should be subjected to a quarantine test before he starts working.

Vanessa is said to be making hay in Toronto as a commercial model. She recently clinched a contract for a shampoo commercial and she is on huge billboards all over the city.

Not quarantined

AN ABS-CBN employee sent me a text message saying members of the network staff have been complaining why not all personnel who covered the death of SARS victim **Adela Catalon** in Alcala, Pangasinan were quarantined, contrary to what ABS-CBN vice president for news **Luchi Cruz-Valdez** told the INQUIRER (Entertainment, April 27, 2003).

The employee said some members of the production crew are still reporting for work "and perhaps spreading germs."

Valdez said reporters **Doris Bigornia** and **Dindo Amparo**, as well as the production crew and even drivers of the van which went to Alcala, were all quarantined.

Meanwhile, the hospital where Catalon was confined was Villasis Polymedic Hospital and Trauma Center.

Sex for 10 hours

JOEY Marquez's "S-Files" cohosts **Richard Gomez**, **Paolo Bediones** and Janice de Belen were teasing him last Sunday about **Kris Aquino**'s earlier comment on how often she has sex. Kris had said on nationwide TV that she does it three times a day. Her remark was reported in this column last Sunday (April 27, 2003).

Joey said he only does it once a week, "but for 10 hours."

On TV last Monday, Kris said her statement "was taken out of context."

But she added, "In the context of a happy married life, why not (sex three times a day)?"

Not ABS-CBN's idea

PATRICIA **Daza-Planas**, ABS-CBN director for corporation affairs and public relations, wrote in reaction to the lead item on this column last Sunday about **Martin Nievera** being "very bitter" at ABS-CBN for "milking" his concert with **Pops Fernandez** at the Araneta Coliseum. The show was aired as a two-part special on the network on April 20 and 27.

Daza stressed that ABS-CBN does not wish to take advantage of any artist. The network entered into an agreement with the concert producer, Maxi-Media International, to air the Araneta Coliseum concert on ABS-CBN.

"The live concert ran for three hours and it was **Felix Co**, owner-producer of Maxi-Media, who requested ABS-CBN to air it as a two-part special, so the show would remain intact," Daza explained. "If ABS-CBN aired the concert in only one evening, as originally planned, large portions of the show would have been removed in order to fit into the time slot. It was not ABS-CBN's intention to 'milk' the event, but it was actually an accommodation of Maxi-Media's request that the concert be aired as a two-part special."

'Madame Ratsa'

"VERY NICE" is how he describes Vanessa del Bianco.

SURFING the channels Friday night, I came across the late-evening show, "Ratsada Balita," hosted by the gutsy **Baby de Jesus** on RPN 9. De Jesus, more popularly known as "Madame Ratsa," is not your usual talk show host who merely tackles issues and gives commentaries. She can be mean, hard-hitting and fearless.

Last Friday, she lashed out at Meralco for increasing the Purchase Power Adjustment (PPA) again, without the knowledge of most consumers and in the absence of a Supreme Court decision on the public's complaints.

"*Bising-bisi tayo sa* SARS *at sa giyera sa* Iraq, *kaya pinagsamantalhan tayo ng* Meralco *para itaas na naman ang* PPA," De Jesus barked.

She said Meralco should return the people's money which went to the PPA.

"*Hindi kami tanga, bobo o uto-uto,*" De Jesus said. "*Huwag ninyo kaming paglolokohin.*"

De Jesus is also amusing, especially when she blurts out her one-liners. She is entertaining, too. Last Friday, she did an entire show in a studio that had no air conditioning, yet she even danced before the cameras to the tune of the "Ketchup Song."

FEARLESS John Estrada should also be quarantined when he comes home.
ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

When she read a fan mail from a priest who commended her program, De Jesus was ecstatic. "*Ayan, may isa na akong* fan," she gushed.

Yesterday, she started her daily show, "Madame Ratsa, Live," which runs right smack into the noontime programs "Eat Bulaga" and "Masayang Tanghali, Bayan."

"*Naku, ako ang ilalaban ninyo sa kanila?*" she told her production crew. "*Ano'ng gusto niyong gawin ko, tumulay sa alambre?*"

"Madame Ratsa Live," which also carries De Jesus' trademark commentary and hard-hitting style, is a welcome alternative to noontime programming. If viewers get tired of watching those contests on the noontime show, they can switch channels and be entertained as well by Madame Ratsa.

Nina in 'Coldwar' with Kyla at Ratsky

SOUL SIREN. Nina is the current toast of the local music scene.

SHOW TIME

MUSIC scene's current toast, Nina, whose angelic voice breathed life to the smash hit, "Jealous," takes center stage opposite fellow artist Kyla in a concert, "Coldwar," April 30, 8:30 p.m. at Ratsky Bar and Restaurant in Tomas Morato, Quezon City.

Nina, whose petite frame is easily defied by her powerful voice, belongs to the new school of R&B, characterized by bouncy, hip tunes, smooth, soulful melody and lyrics that at times can be stark simple, but heartrending as well.

Though relatively new in the local music scene, Nina lays claim to an album, "Heaven," which has earned raves, heavy airplays for the debut single and brisk sales enough to reach the gold record status soon.

She glided to the hearts and consciousness of listeners via the haunting strains of "Jealous," which skyrocketed to the hit charts.

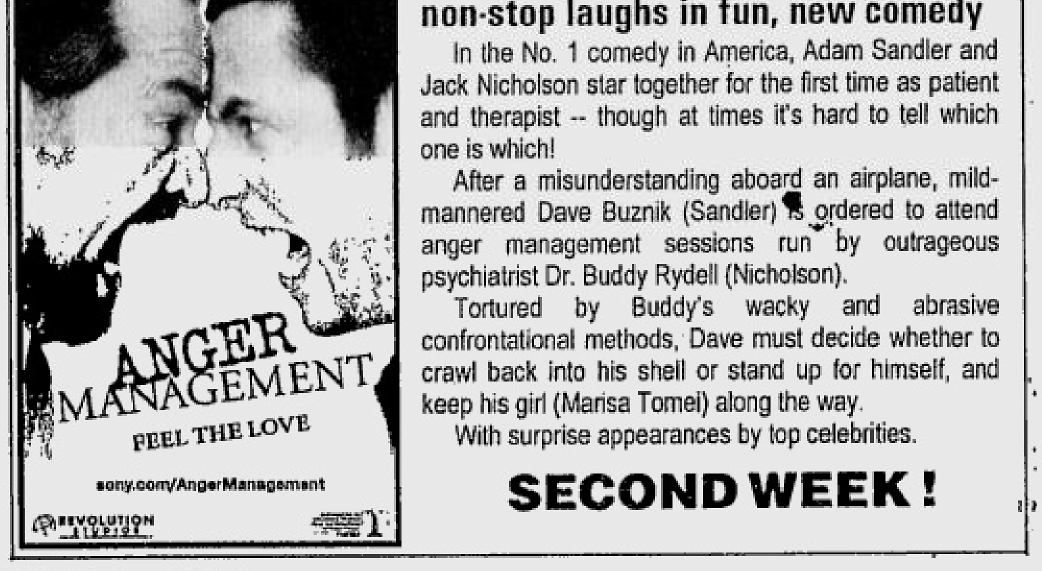
As she made her entry into the music scene, Nina was readily baptized with the title "Soul Siren."

For inquiries about "Coldwar" the concert, call 374-1055 or 0917-8100975.

THE LAUGHTER STARTS ON MAY 7!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
"SIDE-SPLITTING, KNEE-SLAPPING, BELLY-ACHING LAUGHS!"
Mose Persico, ENTERTAINMENT SPOTLIGHT, CTV MONTREAL
Steve Martin Queen Latifah
Bringing down the House
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.
GRAND OPENING TODAY
A Star Cinema 10th Year Anniversary Presentation
I have been waiting for so long. It was you all along.
Ronaldo Valdez Gina Pareño Pen Medina Marissa Delgado
Jennifer Sevilla Gerald Madrid Angel Jacob and Matet de Leon
Judy Ann Santos Piolo Pascual
Till There Was You
Directed by: Bb. Joyce Bernal
LEONARDO Bags
Pacific Blue SHADES
STAR CINEMA
Text YOU and send to 2366

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
FROM THE MAKERS OF BEAN
HE KNOWS NO FEAR
HE KNOWS NO DANGER
HE KNOWS NOTHING
ROWAN ATKINSON
JOHNNY ENGLISH
NOW SHOWING



MTRCB ▶ R-13 Strictly for 13 years of age and up
NICHOLSON SANDLER
ANGER MANAGEMENT
FEEL THE LOVE
sony.com/AngerManagement
REVOLUTION STUDIOS
Adam Sandler, Jack Nicholson offer non-stop laughs in fun, new comedy
In the No. 1 comedy in America, Adam Sandler and Jack Nicholson star together for the first time as patient and therapist -- though at times it's hard to tell which one is which!
After a misunderstanding aboard an airplane, mild-mannered Dave Buznik (Sandler) is ordered to attend anger management sessions run by outrageous psychiatrist Dr. Buddy Rydell (Nicholson).
Tortured by Buddy's wacky and abrasive confrontational methods, Dave must decide whether to crawl back into his shell or stand up for himself, and keep his girl (Marisa Tomei) along the way.
With surprise appearances by top celebrities.
SECOND WEEK!

Selling Trumpets shows: The business of show business

By Butch Jimenez
Contributor

THE AUTHOR

THERE is indeed no business like show business!

Show business is one huge roll of the dice. It's hard to predict the next big hit, the next star, or the latest entertainment craze. That's why we in Trumpets have always made it a point to present musicals that are not only excellent artistically but also make business.

The business model of a Trumpets production has always been based on partnerships with block buyers who buy a full show at a discounted rate and sell the tickets with the objective of earning a profit. This partnership allows Trumpets to widen its audience base as well as help groups and institutions raise funds for their own noble objectives.

The first question a budding businessman usually asks is, how big are the risks in such a venture? Though every business has its risks, Trumpets has devised a scheme to minimize the risks of losses and to provide the block buyer with varied sources of revenues to help ensure a return.

Depending on the play dates, Trumpets sells its shows for as low as P360,000 to as much as P410,000. If a block buyer is able to sell all his tickets, he stands to earn a gross of about P608,000, or a net income of anywhere between P198,000 and P248,000. This represents a return of investment of anywhere between almost 50 and 70 percent for about two months of ticket selling.

Souvenir program ads

Aside from just ticket sales, a block buyer is also given the option to sell souvenir program ads. There are buyers who use this scheme to cover the cost of the show itself. One fund raising group was able to solicit more than P400,000 worth of souvenir program ads, which made the revenue from ticket sales simply gravy for their organization.

Another possible source of revenue for a Trumpets block buyer is sponsorships. After securing the major sponsors for the run, Trumpets allows block buyers to also secure sponsorships not only for their own block-buyer's night but for the whole run. Block buyers get a significant share of the revenue from the sponsors they bring in, which adds to their total income.

To help block buyers sell tickets, Trumpets backs up its major productions with a strong tri-media campaign. Extensive promotional efforts are done through television, radio, billboards and print advertising as well as "on-the-ground" events.

Tickets are reasonably priced. While other musicals sell their tickets for as much as P1,500 each, Trumpet's next musical production will get you a premium seat for half that amount or P750.

After a string of box office hits like "Joseph the Dreamer," "The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe" and "Little Mermaid," Trumpets will present "Honk!" which won as best musical over "The Lion King" in the 2000 Lawrence Olivier Awards in London.

Positive values

"Honk!" is a modern adaptation of the beloved tale, "The Ugly Duckling," which stresses that true beauty is from within.

The 2003 Trumpets production of "Honk!" features Franco Laurel and Carlo Orosa who'll be sharing the role of "Ugly", Carla Martinez, Agot Isidro who is making her stage debut, comedian Nanette Inventor and Sheila Francisco, fresh from her critically acclaimed performance as Bloody Mary in London's "South Pacific," Lana Jalosjos, stage veterans Noel Rayos and Tonipet Gaba, as well as fast rising Paolo Valenciano.

Trumpets' "Honk!" runs at the Meralco Theater from August to September.

If you're looking for a vehicle on positive values for the whole family as well as a means to raise funds for your own worthy cause, check out this year's Trumpets production, "Honk!"

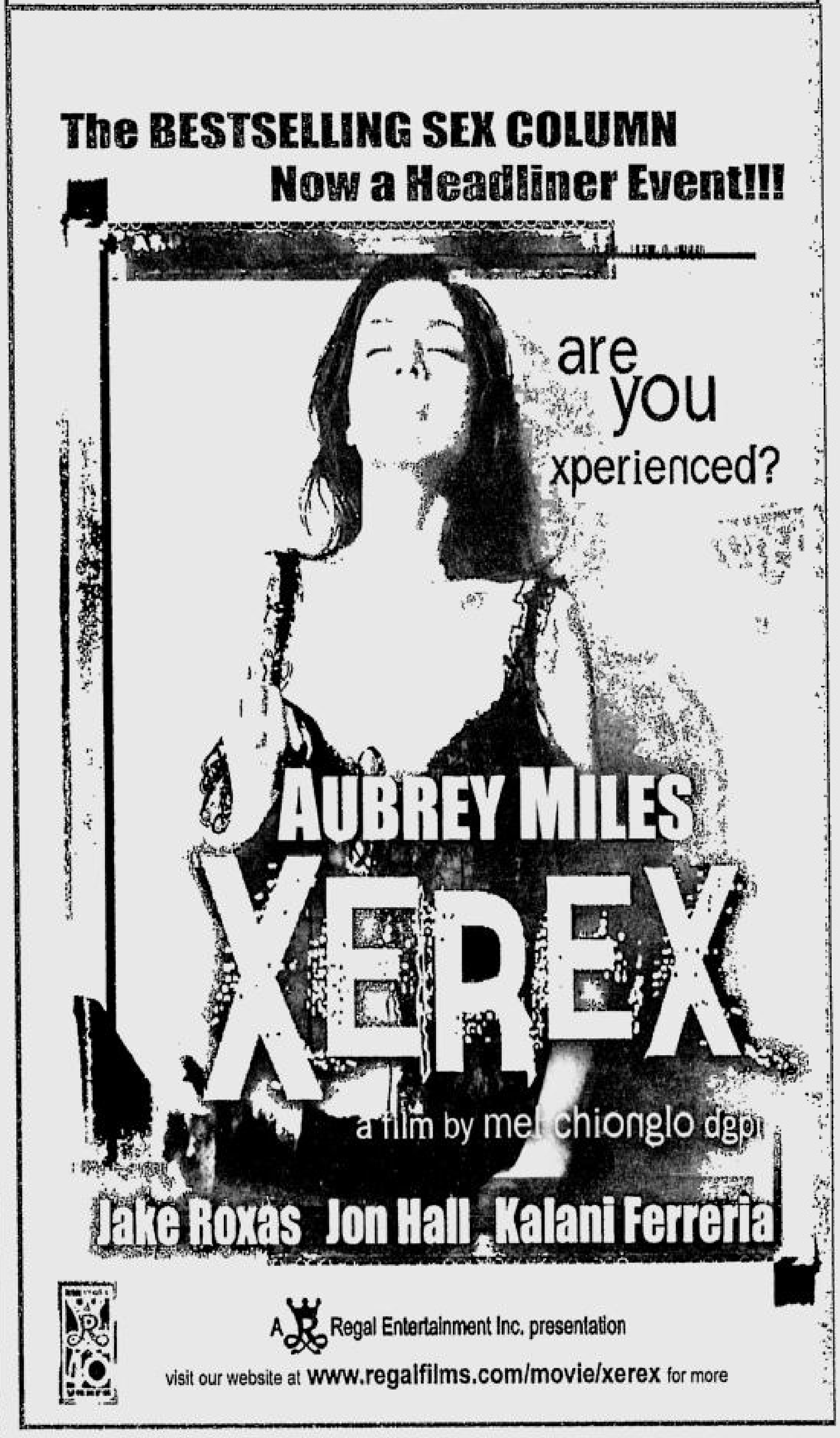
Trumpets also welcomes sales agents who can earn commissions selling shows. Interested parties may call Trumpets Sales Department at 633-5010, 633-4387, 635-478.

MTRCB RATING ➤ PG 13 | Children below 13 years old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

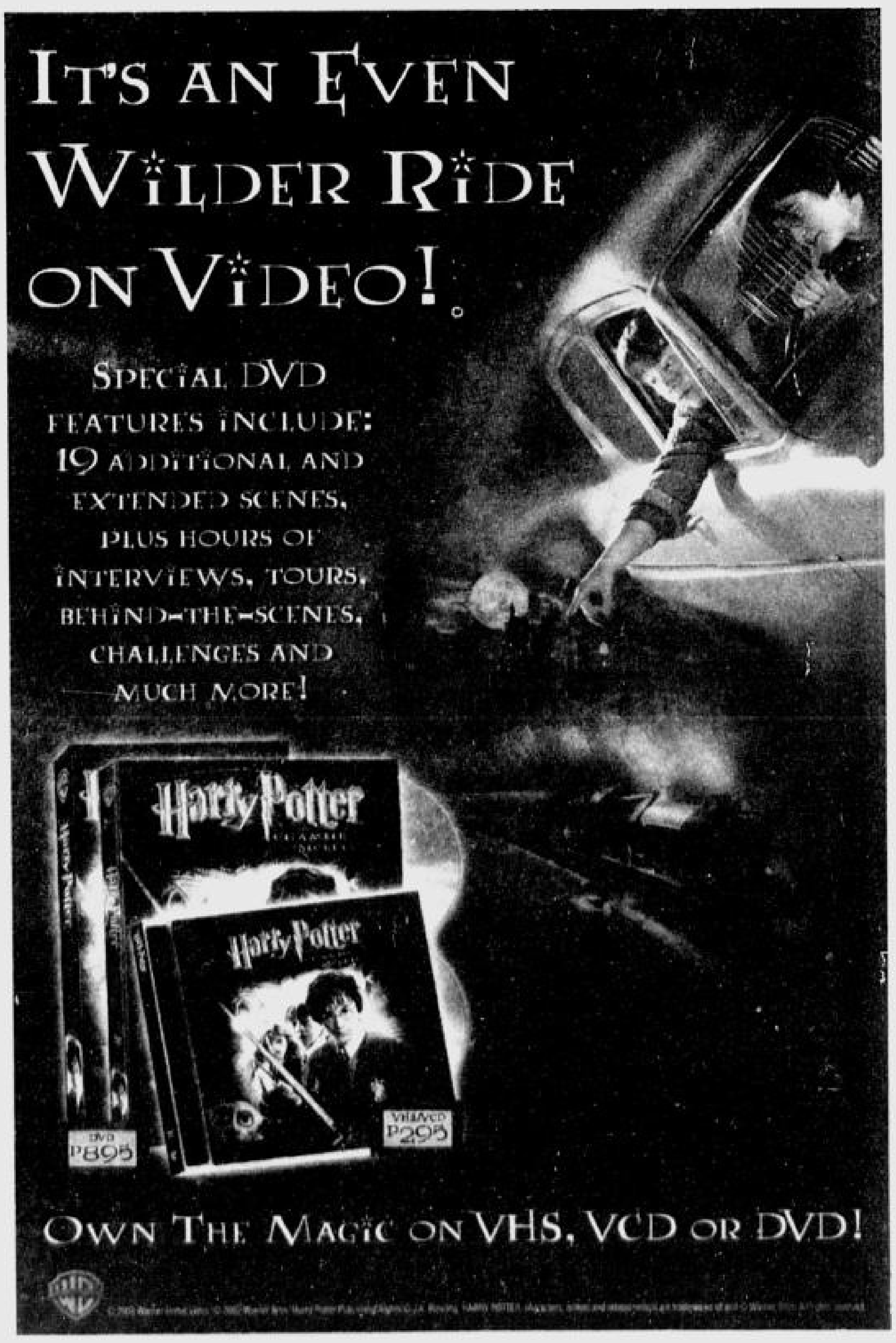
THE TIME HAS COME
FOR THOSE WHO ARE DIFFERENT
TO STAND UNITED.
X-MEN 2
MARVEL

GRAND OPENING TODAY!

GRAND OPENING TODAY!


The BESTSELLING SEX COLUMN
Now a Headliner Event!!!
are you xperienced?
AUBREY MILES
XEREX
a film by mel chionglo dgpi
Jake Roxas
Jon Hall
Kalani Ferreria
A Regal Entertainment Inc. presentation
visit our website at www.regalfilms.com/movie/xerex for more

WHAT IF THE REFLECTION YOU SEE IS NOT YOURS?
The Scariest Film Since "The Exorcist"
THE EYE
More Haunting than "The Sixth Sense"
NOW ON VIDEO
P 250 only
ON ORIGINAL VCD
SOLAR
ENTERTAINMENT


It's an Even Wilder Ride on Video!
Special DVD features include: 19 additional and extended scenes, plus hours of interviews, tours, behind-the-scenes, challenges and much more!
Harry Potter
Harry Potter
DVD P895
VHS/VCD P295
Own The Magic on VHS, VCD or DVD!

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph • **Website:** www.inq7money.net

BUSINESS

Beijing faces negative growth due to SARS

BEIJING is likely to record its first negative growth in gross domestic product (GDP) in more than half a century this year if the outbreak of atypical pneumonia drags on, according to a report.

The report, compiled by the China Economic Research Center and the Health Policy and Administration Studies Center of Peking University, forecast that economic losses in this capital city may go up to 60 billion yuan ($7.25 billion).

Even based on a conservative estimate, the capital city's GDP growth may dive to zero from 12.7 per cent in the first quarter of this year, the report said.

Beijing-based China Business Times cited the report as saying yesterday that the impact from severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) may cut the city's tourism revenues alone by about 40 billion yuan ($4.83 billion).

Since last month, the number of overseas visits to Beijing, one of the hardest-hit areas by the flu-like epidemic, has dived by 80 percent.

If indirect losses are included, the total economic losses may reach as high as 60 billion yuan ($7.25 billion) in Beijing, the report concluded.

Due to the local government's poor response to the disease outbreak at the initial stage, the number of SARS cases has been growing rapidly over the past week to reach 1,199, with 59 deaths, as of 10 am yesterday.

A recent poll has suggested that the negative impact of SARS has already moved beyond the tourism sector to strike more domestic consumption-driven industries such as catering, railway transportation, airlines, retail, entertainment and even mobile communications business.

These industries have begun to feel mounting pressure from the epidemic outbreak although many economists agree that the overall national economic growth will suffer little substantial impact.

"Our business cannot be worse," said taxi-driver Zhang, who was waiting in a long queue of taxies for business yesterday at Beijing West Railway Station.

Zhang said he earned only less than 100 yuan ($12.1) the whole day on Sunday, in stark contrast with a daily average of up to 250 yuan ($30.2) in normal days.

As more and more residents choose to stay at home in a bid to reduce the risk of being infected, the capital city's more than 50,000 taxi drivers like Zhang are expecting a hard time.

For Zhang and most of his colleagues, even earning enough to pay the monthly car rent of 3,500 yuan (US$433) is becoming a mission impossible this month.

On Sunday, the Beijing Municipal Taxi Administration asked local taxi companies to cut car rent by 200 yuan ($24) per week to ease their financial burden.

"We appreciate the government's effort, but I'm afraid the rent reduction is too little to offset our losses," Zhang said. The taxi driver said the number of train passengers to Beijing has seen a sharp decrease since April 20 when the official tally of SARS case was revised to 339 from 37.

Sales of Beijing's 750 railway ticket agencies have seen a fall of more than 30 per cent since late March. *Asia News Network*

Sign up for PLDT Vibe and you can win
GADGETS & GIMMICKS

Hurry! Sign up for a Vibe Plan to get instant freebies and a chance to win a trip to Boracay with a couple of friends, 100,000 pesos in cash and a computer package. As well as other prizes up for grabs. So don't waste your summer, sign up for PLDT Vibe Plan now.

GRAND DRAW PRIZES

1st PRIZE: Grand Vibestyle Package
- Weekend getaway for 4 to Boracay
- Roundtrip plane ticket for 4
- P100,000.00 cash tax free
- NEO QNOTE Starter Notebook
- Canon portable printer and scanner
- Microsoft software
  - Windows XP Home Edition
  - Microsoft Office XP Standard Edition
  - Microsoft software games

2nd PRIZE: Watersports Package
- Aqua adventure to Bohol Beach Club for 3
- Roundtrip plane tickets for 3
- P30,000.00 worth of Nike products
- P6,000.00 worth of Penshoppe swimwear
- One unit of Palm Zire

3rd PRIZE: Mall Spree Package
- Weekend stay at a 5 star hotel for 4
- P30,000.00 worth of Penshoppe products
- Free movie and Time Zone passes for 4
- P8,000.00 worth of Nike products
- One unit Palm Zire

WEEKLY PRIZES
- P2,000.00 worth of Nike products and P2,000.00 worth of Penshoppe products

Instant freebies for every approved plan subscription:
- 1 month free (to be credited to the 2nd month billing)
- Free Level Up cd with 1 month free Oz World gaming
- Free/discounted NIIT web courses

PLDT

MECHANICS:

1 Customer must avail or subscribe to PLDT Vibe Plan. Subscription can be done via the following options:
a. Call 171;
b. On-line application to www.pldtvibe.com;
c. Visit to any PLDT Business Office.

2. Approved new plan subscribers get the following instant freebies:
a. Plan 20 (20 consumable hours, P550/mo):
i. 1 month free (free month to be credited on the second month billing);
ii. 1 free Level Up starter CD with one month Oz World free gaming;
iii. Discounted NIIT web course.
b. Plan 45 (45 consumable hours, P1100/mo)
i. 1 month free (free month to be credited on the second month billing);
ii. 1 free Level Up starter CD with one month Oz World free gaming;
iii. Free NIIT basic web course.

3. New plan subscribers instantly get computer-generated raffle entry/ies to the Gadgets and Gimmicks promo. Number of raffle entry/ies depend on the plan type availed:
a. Plan 20 – 1 raffle entry
b. Plan 45 – 2 raffle entries

4. New and existing subscribers (Post Paid Plan and Pay-Per-Surf) may increase their Vibe entry/ies by referring friends to subscribe to PLDT Vibe Plan. They just have to log on to www.pldtvibe.com, click on the icon that will link them to referral page. They have to put in their friend's name, e-mail address and PLDT phone number. Every approved online referral earns them an additional Vibe entry.

5. Only entries received until May 30, 2003, 7:00pm are qualified to join.

6. Raffle entries will be drawn electronically. Draw will be held in PLDT's Main Office in Ramon Cojuangco Bldg., Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City in the presence of a DTI representative.

7. There will be five weekly draws and a grand draw scheduled as follow:

April 28 (Monday)	1st weekly draw
May 5 (Monday)	2nd weekly draw
May 12 (Monday)	3rd weekly draw
May 19 (Monday)	4th weekly draw
May 26 (Monday)	5th weekly draw
May 31 (Saturday)	Grand Draw

8. Non-winning entries per draw still qualify for the succeeding weekly draws and grand draw.

9. An applicant can only win once in a draw. If a name wins more than once, he gets the bigger prize.

10. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.

11. All prizes are tax free.

12. GMA winners may claim their prize from PLDT's Marketing Services at the 5th floor of Ramon Cojuangco Bldg. Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City. To claim the prizes, they must present valid ID and notification letter. For provincial winners, PLDT will send their respective prizes to their address via courier.

13. Gift certificates are valid for one (1) year from date of Issuance.

14. Redemption period for the prizes will be 60 days from notification.

15. Prizes not claimed after 60 days will be forfeited.

US, Japan have worst aid policies, index says

WASHINGTON—Japan and the United States, the world's two richest countries, are at the bottom of the heap in terms of good development policies, put to shame by smaller and less wealthy counterparts, a new study has found.

The Netherlands topped the new index as the most development friendly rich country, followed by Denmark and Portugal. None of the group of seven leading industrial countries made it into the top five.

Japan ranks bottom out of the 21 rich countries, with the United States taking second to last place.

"Japan's poor performance in the foreign aid and migration categories help consign it to last place," according to a statement from the authors, the Center for Global Development and Foreign Policy magazine.

The index lists the countries based on their dedication to policies helping the 5 billion people living in poorer nations worldwide.

The ranking takes into account the size of aid budgets as well as openness to developing country exports, performance in peacekeeping, investment, migration and environmental policies.

It also penalizes financial assistance to corrupt regimes and policies that harm shared environmental resources.

Although the United States is the best country for the openness of its trade policies, it comes nearly last in the index because of poor marks in environmental policy and tied aid. *Reuters*

Citigroup open to new ventures

NEW YORK—Citigroup Inc., which has banking operations in more than 150 countries, is amenable to further foreign deals as it continues to diversify globally, the head of its international group said on Monday.

"We will continue to respond to attractive acquisition opportunities," Deryck Maughan, Citigroup vice chairman and chief executive of its international unit, said at UBS Warburg's financial services conference in Manhattan.

Citigroup's last big foreign purchase came in 2001, when it agreed to buy Grupo Financiero Banamex-Accival, then Mexico's No. 2 bank, for $12.5 billion.

If Citigroup were approached by a profitable bank that could add value through its geographic positioning and banking product portfolio, "we would welcome it into the family," Maughan said.

"The more products, the more countries, the more secure we feel," he said.

Maughan said the bank wants to focus on nine key markets for growth: Hong Kong, Singapore, India, Germany, the United Kingdom, Poland, Japan, Taiwan and Brazil. Citigroup sees opportunities in both commercial banking and corporate and investment banking, he said.

Investors were concerned with the effect of SARS—the potentially deadly Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome—which has been affecting parts of Asia and is seen as hitting the economies of the region.

"I don't view it as a material economic event, not yet," said Maughan, adding that predicting the future of the virus was a job for scientists.

Citigroup's Salomon Smith Barney investment banking arm and nine other firms were part of a landmark $1.4 billion settlement with market regulators that was finalized on Monday.

Securities watchdogs had accused the banks of misleading investors by issuing biased stock research designed to win investment banking business.

Maughan declined to comment on the settlement, which was announced during his lunchtime speech, but he said the bank will adhere to global standards.

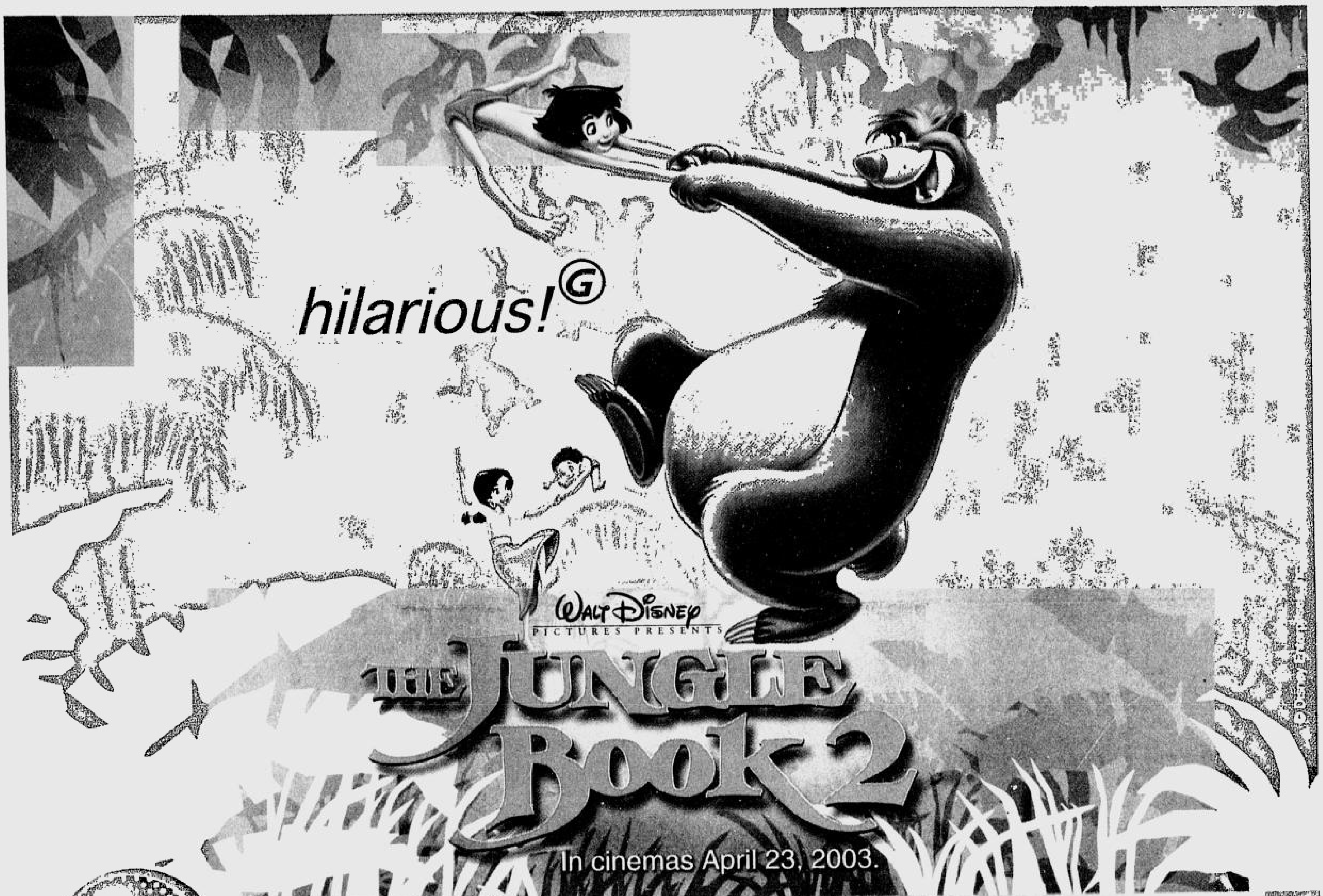
"These are global markets and we believe they have global applications," he said. *Reuters*

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE
Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso** ▣ *Chief of Correspondents* **Pam Pastor**

2bU!
to be young • to be you • to be young • to be young • To be you!

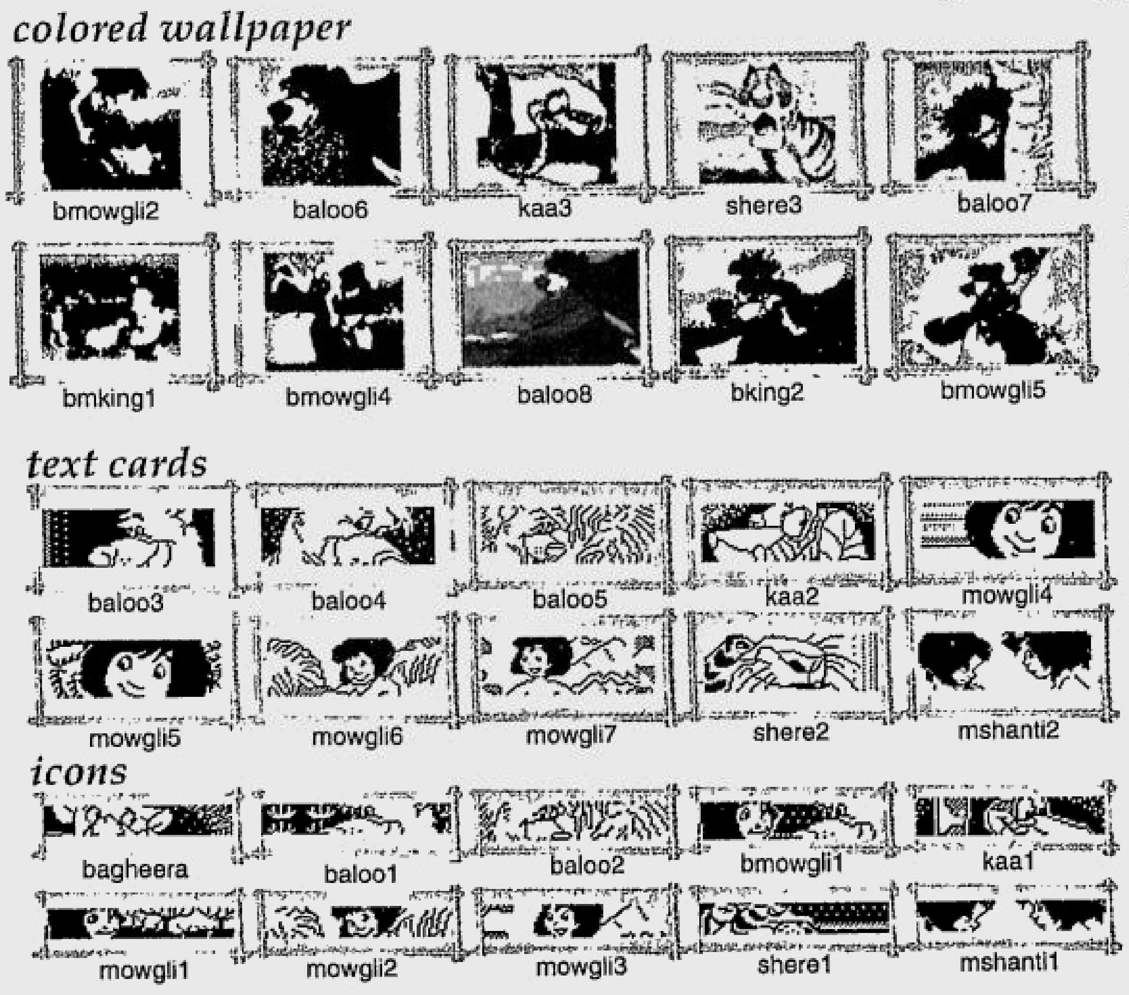
Halo-halo for summer

Wave after wave, we take you from shore to shore, from an interview with Yuen Wo-Ping, the martial arts master behind 'The Matrix' and 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon,' and a conversation with Sugar Free vocalist Ebe Dancel, to fashion options for the wardrobe-challenged and soulful food to help you reach blissful culinary heaven. Plus features on summer flings, summer classes, alternative ways to party, new albums, music videos, breakthroughs in wireless technology, great summer reads and a look at how other young people are spending this blistering summer. Surfs up! There's something for everyone in this sizzling issue


hilarious!
G
Walt Disney Pictures Presents
The Jungle Book 2
In cinemas April 23, 2003.

myGlobe moviemania

Download a jungle full of fun!


colored wallpaper
bmowgli2
baloo6
kaa3
shere3
baloo7
bmking1
bmowgli4
baloo8
bking2
bmowgli5
text cards
baloo3
baloo4
baloo5
kaa2
mowgli4
mowgli5
mowgli6
mowgli7
shere2
mshanti2
icons
bagheera
baloo1
baloo2
bmowgli1
kaa1
mowgli1
mowgli2
mowgli3
shere1
mshanti1

ringtones

SONG TITLE	KEYWORD
Colonel Hathi's March	colonel
I Wanna Be Like You	belikeu
My Own Home	ownhome
That's What Friends are For	friends
The Bare Necessities	bare
Trust In Me	trustme
Jungle Rhythm	rhythm

To download, text these keywords to 2941:
For TEXT CARDS, type in TC (keyword)
Ex. TC baloo3
For ICONS, type in L (keyword)
Ex. L baloo1
For TONES, type in N (keyword).
Ex: N bare
Text PHONES to 2375 for a free list
of compatible phones.
Icons and Text Cards rate: ₱15.00

For MMS colored wallpaper, go to the myGlobe WAP site, click on What's New and select Jungle Book wallpaper. Rate per download: ₱20.00

Play the Disney Trivia game. Register by texting REG (name) to 2942. Text DT SINGLE to start the game.

Disney MOBILE
Buena Vista International
MTRCB Rating (G)
making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

summer reading list

By Zane Ronquillo
Contributor

IT'S summer alright. Everybody's excited to hit the country's famous beaches. And while your working on that golden tan, why not work on getting the hottest year-round accessory as well, an enviable mind. Don't forget to catch up on your favorite reads during this well-deserved break. Remember, a sensible and intelligent person is always sexy. We rounded up a few of our fellow youth readership advocates to give you their recommended summer reads—perfect for those breezy afternoons, lying in a hammock and sipping cold lemonade.

Emily
the Strange

Arnold Arre, "After Eden" author and artist (Adarna House):

1. "Einstein's Dreams" by Alan Lightman

Definitely my all time favorite! It romanticizes Einstein's theory of relativity and shows how time and space can be unpredictable, oftentimes frightening, yet altogether beautiful.

2. "Goodbye Chunky Rice" by Craig Thompson

This one of a kind graphic novel explores a heartwarming tale about love, friendship and coping with loss. Told in a unique way that only sequential art can.

3. "Dune" by Frank Herbert

This sweeping fantasy epic is the only piece of literature I know that can rival Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings" and Asimov's "The Foundation Series."

4. "The Third Wave" by Alvin Toffler

For you teenagers, this is a must-read if you want to survive and make sense out of all the chaos happening in our civilization today. It explains in simple language how society evolves and how the seemingly small events in history can change the world forever.

5. "Box Office Poison" by Alex Robinson

Halfway into this funny and witty 500-page graphic novel, you'll feel like you've known the characters all your life. Aside from all the sex, friendship, love and betrayal issues it tackles, it really is the story of how artists can overrun the mechanical corporate monstrosities that hound our society. Feel-good all around.

6. "The Narnia Chronicles" by CS Lewis.

Way before Harry Potter, The Narnia Chronicles had already explored the world of the fantastic. It still never fails to give that sense of childlike wonder with each reading. A good gift for a loved one, young and old.

Bernie Sim, MTV Ink writer and illustrator:

1. "Second Hand" by Michael Zadoorian

For anyone and everyone who's been bitten by the *ukay*/bargain hunting bug. Like the cool junk we covet, this delightful fiction makes you think about what people should really value.

American
S*O*N
Brian Ascalon Roley
a novel

2. "Welcome to Temptation" by Jennifer Cruise

I've graduated from reading three-inch thick trashy romance novels in high school, but I still can't resist picking one up occasionally, especially if they're as funny and sexy as Jennifer Cruise's work. The contemporary plots are a gazillion kingdoms away from Cinderella fantasies, the babes are neurotic, and the hunks are sometimes pricks.

"Welcome to Temptation" is one of my favorite low brow novels, and not just because it's got porn in it.

3. "The Passion of Artemisia" by Susan Vreeland

I picked this one up because I am a female artist myself. Artemisia Gentileschi is one of the greatest artists of 17th century Italian Baroque, the first ever female painter who made a living by her brush, and whose horrific rape trial was the first ever documented. Susan's fictional account nevertheless shows us a determined and passionate woman who was courageous enough to gun for what she wants in life, especially in such a masochistic environment.

4. "Happy Endings" by Luis Joaquin Katigbak

Beguiling and whimsical, these short stories of love and life by Palanca awardee Luis Katigbak never fails to bring a smile to my face. It's always a thrill to re-discover them, even after college.

5. "Emily the Strange" by Cosmic Debris

A visual treat for little deviants everywhere. I'm a big fan of Emily and her acrid brand of nastiness (It's placed right beside my copy of Jessica Zafra's "Chicken Pox for the Soul"). If you're named after someone who's as eccentric as "Wuthering Heights'" Emily the Strange Bronte, you'd be up to no good too.

6. "(Ang Kagilas-gilas na Pakikipagsapalarani) Zsazsa Zaturnah" by Carlo Vergara

It's about time someone ("One Night in Purgatory" creator Carlo Vergara to be exact) came up with Darna comics. This two-part, black and white local comic made me laugh so much, milk came out of my nostrils (well, after I drank it, of course). Influenced heavily by swardspeak, so-bad-it's-good Pinoy movies, comics, and pop culture, Zsazsa's brand of slapstick humor and crazy gay wit will have you tittering in no time. I give it three snaps in Z formation.

Grimsey
Sydney 1637 km
London 1949 km
Falling Off the Map
Pico Iyer

Thor Balanon, Filipinas Heritage Library manager

1. "Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Tales of the Slayer Vol. 2" (Includes Jane Espenson, Max Allan Collins and Matthew V. Clemens)

As a TV show it has been constantly acclaimed by critics and the academe, it's no surprise that the "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" literature is equally well written and engaging as its predecessor. "Tales of the Slayer Vol. 2" is a compilation of 10 short stories that expands the modern mythology of girls (and watchers) who fight demons while also battling the bittersweet pangs of growing up. From the mystical mists of 980 Japan to the sunshiny streets of Sunnydale in 2000, this Sci-Fi Bookclub Alternate Selection is packed with surprising twists, high-kicking action and biting humor. Definitely a book to sink your teeth into.

2. "The Wish List" by Eoin Colfer

From the author of the naughty and imaginative "Artemis Fowl" comes an inventive tale of trials and salvation. A fatal gas explosion sends Meg Finn in an alternate limbo where both Heaven and Hell are fighting over her soul.

Meg's only choice is to help an old man to complete tasks on his wish list, hoping that St. Peter will grant her a ticket to the pearly gates. Nothing is what it seems when your (after) life is all wiggy, and what follows is a surprising, hilarious journey towards ascension.

3. "Anina ng mga Alon" by Eugene Y. Evasco

"Anina ng mga Alon" is the poignant tale of Anina, a Badjao child who has always lived with the sea, forced on a quest for acceptance. In the road to self-discovery, she discovers the noble struggle of a culture trying to survive, the unkindness of poverty, and the triumph of a determined spirit. "Anina" is beautifully narrated in the poetic prose of Palanca award-winner Eugene Evasco.

4. "Tangerine" by Edward Bloor

When nearly blind Paul Fisher, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, moves to Tangerine, Florida, he discovers his uncanny talent to play soccer. But it's not that easy to get into the team. For starters, in a place where forest fires and thunderstorms are ordinary, it is not totally alarming when kids start getting struck by lightning during soccer practice. Paul's heroic stand for his passion, alongside other vividly drawn characters make "Tangerine" a riveting read with tight plotlines and an exhilarating revelation at the end.

5. "Stardust" by Neil Gaiman

Famous for his award-winning "Sandman" series, Neil Gaiman weaves a mesmerizing tale of a mythical quest for love. Tristan Thom falls in love with the haunting beauty Victoria Forrester, but it is not enough. She promises to marry him if he brings her a star. Tristan ventures into the faerie world and finds a young woman with a broken leg, who turns out to be the star he was looking for. Everything in Gaiman's world is unanticipated: talking trees, humanoid stars, immortal hunters, and a love that defies time.

6. "American Son" by Brian Ascalon Roley

In his debut novel, Brian Roley paints a dark picture of two Fil-Am brothers growing up in California. Gabe tries very hard to steer away from the gang lifestyle that his brother Tomas has chosen. He runs from home, hoping to escape his past and his heritage. But fleeing only brought him closer to a destiny that continues to spiral downward.

Though containing a few graphic scenes of violence, "American Boy" clearly gets across the fear of alienation that occasionally plague teens nowadays.

Mabi-David Balangue, Adarna House marketing and communications officer

1. "Falling off the Map" by Pico Iyer

In this collection, Pico Iyer writes about the "loneliest places" on earth (and their remoteness is brought on not just by geography but often occasioned by economic and political instabilities.) I love Pico Iyer because his travel essays are intelligently written, his anecdotes sharp and extremely funny, and he disappears into the background of what he's writing about so that the truths about the place, the people, the culture, all unfold before the reader. In all his books, not once did he whine or complain which some "travel writers" often do and this I respect. And in this season when we all troop to the "best, most fun" vacation places, it is a welcome contrast to read about and visit these lonely places.

2. "Santaland Diaries" by David Sedaris

If the cover hadn't caught my eye, I wouldn't have bought the book. It had a man in Santa suit, his back to us, taking a leak in a urinal. The blurb also suggests that the book may be used as a drink coaster. Sedaris is nasty as he is hilarious and I don't think I've ever laughed as hard as when I was reading this book. He is self-absorbed, delusional and a genius of satire.

3. "The Hours" by Michael Cunningham

"The Hours" intertwines the lives of three women from different periods: Virginia Woolf as she begins writing Mrs. Dalloway, Laura Brown who gets up to prepare for her husband's birthday but stays a bit longer in bed to read Mrs. Dalloway, ante Clarrisa Vaughn who unwittingly reenacts what takes place in the novel. More than the obvious parallelisms and common themes running throughout the story, what makes the book worth reading is that underneath the seeming lack of plot, Cunningham artfully captures the quiet desperation of the lives of three women. (And the book is infinitely better than the movie.)

4. "Slam Romances"

It's fun reading light romance stories in the summer. Two I really like are Una and Miguel by Lilledeshan Bose and All the Right Moves by Tara Sering. The two novellas are well-written, fast-paced and even if I'm already in my late 20s, these two books cater well to that part of me which insists on being a sucker for great Hollywood romances.

Una and Miguel is a funnier, fresher take-on-an-old-plot-popular boy, outcast girl. The dialogues are nasty and laugh-out-loud funny. Sering's All the Right Moves is a choose-your-own-romance book. It is one *kilig* ride.

5. "Ariel" by Sylvia Plath

"Dying is an art/like everything else./ I do it exceptionally well.// I do it so it feels like hell./ I do it so it feels real." I first encountered Plath's poems when I was in my mid-teens and the bleak, vivid energy in her poems matched my teenage angst. Her words were like shards of broken glass. One writer (I forget who) said that reading her poems is like catching a bullet with your teeth. But one needs to get past the suicidal angry feminist label and recognize that it is her poetry and not her confession which she did exceptionally well.

6. "Lolita" by Vladimir Nabokov

NATIONAL BESTSELLER
STARDUST
"A twisting, wondrous tale full of magic." —CHICAGO TRIBUNE
NEIL GAIMAN
AUTHOR OF AMERICAN GODS AND NEVERWHERE

One of the best novels ever written, it's also Nabokov's most controversial. Humbert Humbert, an aging European intellectual is in love and in pursuit of Lolita, an adolescent nymphet. The first line never fails to reel readers in: "Lolita, love of my life, fire of my loins." It's a delirious meditation on love, desire and madness. Humbert's all-consuming desire and depravity written in Nabokov's delirious and feverish prose left me stunned and shaken.

Reading this book is to surrender oneself into the hands of a master.

Clarissa Concio, MTV INK managing editor:

1. "Coraline" by Neil Gaiman

I never had boring summers, even if i stayed at home because i always tried to explore and look for new things to do. Coraline is a story about a girl who did just that and, in the process, realized that sometimes, things and people need not be complicated, exciting and "different" to be special. (Besides, it's Neil Gaiman. You can't go wrong with Gaiman.)

2. "Lenore" by Roman Dirge

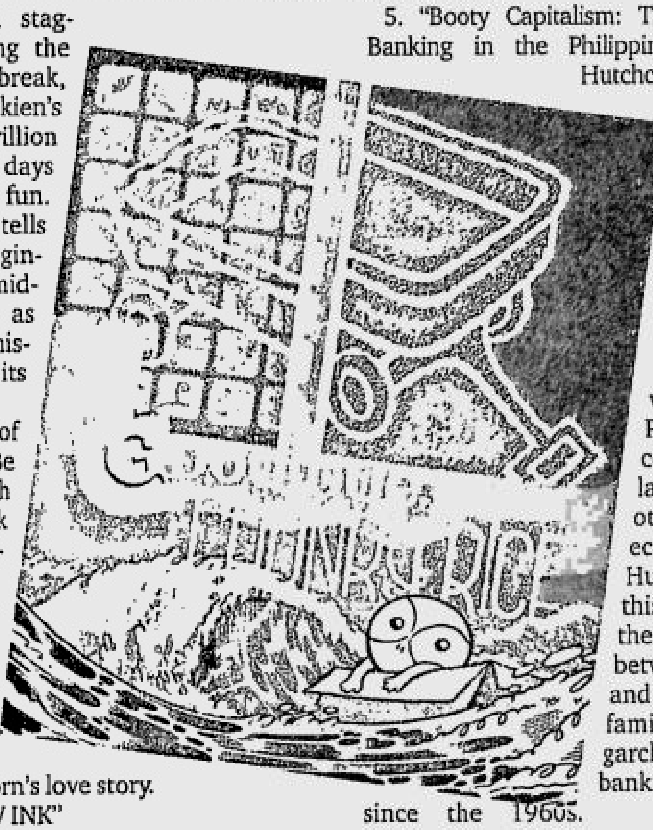
If there's anything or anyone who can be both dead and extremely cute at the same time, then Lenore is it. Fun, easy, gory reading about a pretty, witty, dead girl and her strange "posse" of gross friends.

3. "1001 Arabian Nights"

A great book to bring along with you during trips. It's one looooong story pieced together by short, entertaining tales. And, despite what most people may think because of the adaptations of the stories in Arabian Nights for kids' books (Aladdin, Ali Baba and the forty thieves), the original Arabian Nights contains lots of violence.

4. "The Silmarillion" by J.R.R. Tolkien

For nerds who don't want their brains to remain stagnant during the summer break, J.R.R. Tolkien's The Silmarillion provides days of geek fun. The book tells of the beginnings of middle earth, as well as a history of its different races of people. Be ready with a notebook and pen-note-taking highly recommended. Also includes Arwen and Aragorn's love story.



5. "MTV INK"

Funny features, interesting pieces on the hottest musicians and artists, lotsa cool stuff and freebies, Magic Eye...who could ask for more in a mag?

Pierre Palallos, WWF Philippines communications officer

I usually read magazines that relate to my line of work.

1. "Mac User"

This magazine is a great source for Mac users. It features all the latest from Macintosh and offers great tips from digital imaging, sound production, graphic design, etc. It also gives freebies once in a while.

2. National Geographic Magazine

My dad used to subscribe Nat Geo way back in the '70s and '80s. I usually read all the back issues whenever I have the time. The articles are well written and insightful.. The images are great too.

3. Any magazine on graphic design

I get design tips and ideas from these magazines.

4. "Dragonlance series"

I'm a big Fantasy/Adventure lover and I recommend the Dragonlance series. If you like The Lord of the Rings trilogy, you will love this one. Start with the Legend of Huma (Herpes series) then follow it with the Chronicle series: Dragons of Auto Twilight, Dragons of Venter Night, Dragons of Spring Dawning.

Bastiaan Van de Loo, assistant political and cultural affairs, Netherlands Embassy

1. "The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order" by Samuel P. Huntington

Reading this book will give the reader a greater understanding of contemporary issues in the world: anti Americanism, fundamentalism, and regionalism. Huntington explains this by giving a historical background and analyzing certain patterns in international relations that affect all of us.

2. "A Nation under Fire" by Francisco Tatad

Since I am writing my master thesis on The Rise and Fall of Joseph Estrada, A Case Study of Philippine Politics, I came along this book. It gives a very good insight of the Estrada Impeachment trial. Although Tatad is not objective, this book provides, a different and important perspective on EDSA II.

3. "Under the Crescent Moon: Rebellion in Mindanao" By Marites Danguilan Vitug & Glenda M. Gloria

This was part of the literature I read while studying at the University of Hawaii under Prof. Wurfel and Prof. Belinda Aquino. In my daily conversations with Filipinos I wonder whether they are aware of the background of the crisis in Mindanao. This book provides this necessary information. Sometimes it is forgotten that Filipinos are fighting each other and that it is about time that all parties come together and try to ensure a lasting peace.

4. "Porks and Other Perks. Corruption and Governance in the Philippines" edited by Sheila S. Coronel

All articles in this book are shocking cases of corruption in the Philippines. It shows that despite the enormous socio-economic disparities, certain government officials and politicians seem to have difficulty in keeping their hands of money that belongs to all Filipinos. The introduction by Joel Rocamora, which gives a background on corruption should I think become compulsory literature in high school to educate the youth on this matter.

5. "Booty Capitalism: The Poetics of Banking in the Philippines" by Paul Hutchcroft

Reading this book was one of the reasons I got so interested in the Philippines. It tackles the question of why the Philippines continuously lagged behind other Asian economies. Hutchcroft does this by analyzing the interactions between the state and the major families of the oligarchy in the banking sector since the 1960s. Booty capitalism," he explains, emerged from relations between a patrimonial state and a predatory oligarchy. Unfortunately, the prevalence of this oligarchy, that has dominated and exploited Philippine politics and economy for years, continues to be one of the main obstacles to Philippine development.

6. "A Diary of a Young Girl" by Anne Frank

For her 13th birthday, Anne received a diary and in this diary Anne started to write about her experiences while in hiding from the anti-Jewish Nazis during World War II. This book deeply touched me and once again reminded me of the importance of respecting diversity among people. Nowadays, Anne Frank's diary has become a universal message of courage and hope in the face of adversity. Thinking again about current affairs: I wonder how many girls and boys are going through the same suffering as Anne did in Mindanao, Sudan, and other war-torn parts in the world. The Anne Frank Exhibit has been put up by the Netherlands Embassy in Shangri-la Plaza and will transfer to Cebu in April and Davao in May.

Hottest iced teas in town

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

By Mark Andrew F. Bonifacio
2bU! Correspondent

ICED tea is becoming as popular a beverage as sodas. In fact, it is fast becoming the preferred thirst-quencher of many people.

Can't have enough of iced tea? Check out some of the best and most refreshing iced teas in town.

Red Iced Tea
Tokyo Tokyo
P40

Yes, it is indeed red in color but it is not strawberry or cherry. What makes this iced tea special is the bubblegum and candy aftertaste. A heavy favorite among Tokyo Tokyo patrons, the Red Iced Tea, served with lemon wedge, would complete your Japanese meal. You can order it by the glass or plastic bottle.

Leaves of Grass
The Kitchen
P40

Who says tea and *pandan* can't go together? This refreshment, exquisitely flavored with *pandan*, would remind you at first of the famous Pinoy drink, *sago at gulaman*, only better. Served "bottomless," Leaves of Grass is recommended for those who prefer a Filipino-tasting iced tea.

Cool It!
The Kitchen
P40

True to its name, Cool It! is a delight for mint lovers. Also served "bottomless" like Leaves of Grass, this iced tea with mint can taste like toothpaste at first but as you sip it, you will be truly refreshed. The cool minty taste will make you feeling pampered.

Nestea Apple
P10

A refreshing treat especially for those who are always on the go, Nestea Apple truly captures the taste of apple. The *calamansi*-flavored is just as authentic-tasting. You won't have a hard time looking for this iced tea since it is available in cans from vendo machines. Recommended for those who are budget-conscious.

> Iced tea is fast becoming the preferred thirst-quencher of many people

Snapple (lemon and raspberry)
P23

If you don't want your iced tea too sweet, this one's for you. People with a sweet tooth may not appreciate it since it tastes a bit sour, making it distinct from other iced teas. You can feel a tingling sensation after drinking it (especially the Raspberry flavor). Available in glass bottles, Snapple's iced tea is perfect with desserts, as an alternative to coffee.

Sola
P24.20

Made of black tea, Sola Iced Tea comes in three flavors (lemon, peach and raspberry) and packed in a cute glass bottle. Sweet-tea lovers would have a grand time with this drink. Among the three flavors, peach is the best. Best drunk when cold (otherwise it tastes too sweet), Sola Iced Tea is ideal for snacks.

Lipton Lemon Bottled Iced Tea
P18.15

Lipton Bottled Iced Tea leads the pack among commercially available iced teas. Its right blend makes it pleasing to the taste buds and will leave you wanting more.

Wendy's Iced Tea
Biggie size: P 29

There is something about this iced tea that leaves you feeling cold and full afterwards. Whatever it is, a bacon cheeseburger, bacon mushroom melt, French fries or any other Wendy's meal would not be complete without its famous iced tea.

Blended with just the right amount of sweetness and lemon (or is it *calamansi*?), this iced tea truly makes a refreshing difference. Biggie size recommended.

Trendy and affordable fashion finds

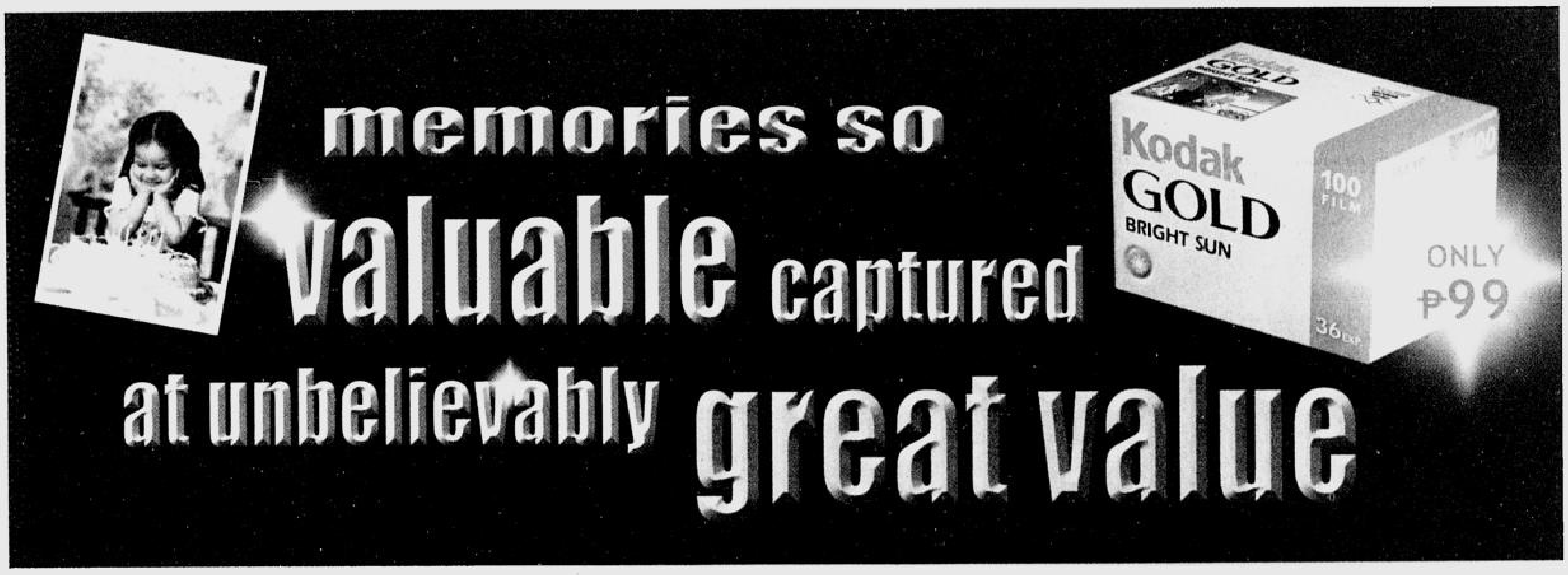
HIP fashion store in Rockwell recently celebrated its first anniversary with a fashion fair at the North Court of Power Plant Mall.

All 14 establishments showcased the latest trends in fashion. Babo, Clad Shoppe, Don't Miss, Dtour, Lhasa, Limited and Mix Clothing exhibited outfits for today's trend setting and trend-conscious women. Dickies, Reverse and Underground showed off stitches for the cool guys. Janylin and Sole presented both funky and classic shoes. Funky Finds and Girl Shoppe offered the most hip accessories and cutest knick-knacks.

Globe Gentext co-presented this year's event. The focus of this anniversary celebration was to promote peace in the world and inculcate social awareness in today's youth. Part of the proceeds were donated to the Philippine Red Cross.

Lots of activities, promotions, freebies and discounts awaited Hip patrons and Gentxt members. This groovy happening was also sponsored by O Music Video and Meg Magazine.

HIP is a cozy hub of stores at the second floor of Power Plant Mall in Rockwell Center.



Memories as precious as diamonds are best captured in Gold. And as our special offer on our 75th Anniversary, we give you Kodak Gold films at even greater value. Also available in 24 exposure film at P79.00 and 12 exposure film at P66.00.

So as we celebrate our Diamond Year, celebrate the brilliance of life with Kodak Gold.

Promo period is from April 1 to May 31, 2003.
Available in all Kodak film outlets nationwide.
Per DTI-NCR permit no. 1370 series of 2003.

Share Moments. Share Life.™

75 YEARS IN THE PHILIPPINES
Capturing the brilliance of life.

Comb Through
Fabulous Summer Finds

at the **Summer Bangketa Fair** of **Greenhills Shopping Center.**

Don't get tangled in a time warp. Get a new look this summer at GSC's Summer Bangketa Fair. With over 1,000 stalls and extended shopping hours 'til 10 P.M. on Fridays and Saturdays, you'll surely find everything you need to look this summer's best.

SHOPPING CENTER
ORTIGAS & COMPANY, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
www.greenhills.com.ph

Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.
INFOBOX

Fever in Children

Having a child with fever is an anxiety-provoking situation that many parents never want to experience. Fortunately, most of these episodes are due to minor illnesses. Since most children will suffer from fever at one time or another, it is very important for you to know what causes fever and what to do when your child has one.

What is fever?

You may feel that your child has a temperature that's warmer than usual. Does he have fever? It is important to remember that although the average normal body temperature is 37° C, it may vary among people. There is also a regular daily pattern that varies from person to person. Upon waking up in the morning, body temperature is at its lowest, and is highest in the late afternoon. Most children have a higher body temperature than adults and have more daily variations. Food, extra clothing, anxiety, and physical activity or exercise can lead to a temporary increase in temperature.

Most parents believe that fever is any temperature above the usual for their child. Although there is no exact definition of fever among doctors, a temperature of 37.8° C is generally considered as the beginning of a fever.

What causes fever?

Once you are sure that your child has fever, it may mean a lot of things. That's because fever is not an illness in itself. It is a symptom of an illness, often from a viral or bacterial infection. It may also be secondary to an injection or a vaccination given to a child. Thus, fever is a sign, a form of warning, that your child's body is fighting the infection.

Is fever dangerous?

Fever makes your child's body unfavorable to the microbe or virus. Through the body's high temperature, fever impairs the ability of the harmful organism to replicate and even helps kill some viruses. What's more, the number of white blood cells that are responsible for killing both the microbes and the infected cells are similarly increased.

However, there is a very small number of children between the ages of three months to six years who will develop convulsions associated with an abrupt increase in temperature. This usually lasts for less than five minutes.

How to measure body temperature

The standard for measuring body temperature is the glass thermometer.

ORAL: Oral temperature may be taken in older children who can hold the thermometer, without biting, under their tongues with their lips closed. The oral thermometer, which has a long bulb at the end, should be left inside the mouth for three minutes.

RECTAL: Rectal temperatures give the most accurate reading, and are best for babies younger than two months. To take the rectal temperature, the infant is placed on his back with knees bent towards the chest. The bulb end of the glass thermometer, lubricated with oil or petroleum jelly, is inserted into the anus 3/4 to 1 inch deep. It should be held in place for three minutes, withdrawn and read.

AXILLARY: Axillary temperature, which is taken in the armpit, is the safest way to take the temperature. The thermometer is placed in the armpit with the arm held against the body for three minutes.

Today, technology has offered new and easier ways to read body temperature such as the digital thermometer and the ear thermometer.

Medicating your child's fever

In children, the most common medicine used to relieve fever is paracetamol. It is given at a dose of 5-10 mg per kilogram of body weight every four hours. Infant drops is the concentrated preparation, which delivers medicine in a smaller amount. Each preparation will require a different dose, thus, always make sure that you are giving your child the right preparation and the right amount of medicine. If you are unsure of how much to give, ask your doctor.

To give a suspension, use a medicine cup or kitchen-measuring spoon. Also, make sure you shake the medicine bottle well before pouring the suspension onto the spoon.

Treating your child's fever

Because fever is the body's normal response to infection, the main goal of treatment is to keep your child as comfortable as possible since the higher the temperature, the worse the child feels. The following should be done:

- Dress him in light clothes. Avoid heavy jackets and long sleeves.
- Keep him in a cool and quiet environment, and avoid undue stress.
- Give him lots of liquids—water or juices—frequently. Babies who are still breastfeeding should continue to breastfeed for comfort and rehydration.
- Carrying infants help them to sleep and feel better.
- If the temperature is 39° C or higher, sponge your child with water that is neither hot nor cold. Cold water is never recommended since it prevents the body from releasing extra heat. This will also cause your child to shiver. Alcohol baths or rubs should likewise be avoided. There is a risk of alcohol poisoning as alcohol can be absorbed through the skin.
- Sponge the limb one at a time until it feels cool to the touch. Dry limbs and tuck under a blanket. Proceed with the rest of the body and continue with the face and forehead.

Tips on using the thermometer

- Shake the thermometer and allow the mercury to settle down before using it.
- Be sure that it is not cracked. If it is broken, do not touch the mercury with your hands. Use a tissue and dispose properly.
- Wipe the thermometer and wash with soap and cool water after every use. Avoid hot water as it may break your thermometer.
- Never leave your child alone while taking his temperature.
- Keep the thermometer in a safe place and out of your child's reach.

When to consult your doctor

Although most of the time a child's fever is due to a minor illness, there are usually symptoms that can help explain where the fever is coming from: cough, colds, vomiting, and diarrhea. If the temperature has gone down and your child looks better, chances are he's out of danger. But since the height of fever or the response or lack of it to medication will not give a clue to the severity of the illness, there are several indications that will tell you that your child should be brought to the doctor:

- If your baby is less than three months old, do not hesitate to bring him in since fever in young infants can be an early warning sign of an infection.
- If your baby refuses to eat or drink less than the usual, dehydration can set in. Infants less than six months old are more vulnerable to this. Watch out for a decrease in diaper changes as a measure of dehydration.
- Even if your child is more than three months old, if a fever does not subside on the 2nd or 3rd day, consult a doctor.
- Regardless of the temperature, if your child is irritable and weak, bring him to the doctor.
- Rashes, difficulty of breathing, pain or difficulty in urination, stiff neck, ear and abdominal pain indicate that you should consult your doctor.
- Anytime that you are uncomfortable with the way your child looks or acts, do not hesitate, consult your doctor.

Tips on giving medicine to your child

- Don't give any fever medication for more than three days without consulting a doctor.
- If he is sleeping well, there is no need to wake him to check his temperature or to give the medication unless specified by a doctor.
- Take his temperature before giving any additional medication to track his response to the medicine and lessen the unnecessary intake of medicine.
- Always keep the medicine out of his reach.
- Aspirin is NOT recommended to persons 9 years and below due to a risk of a liver disorder associated with aspirin.

This health education campaign is made possible through a grant from WELLNESS INSTITUTE CONSUMER HEALTH

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.
INFOBOX

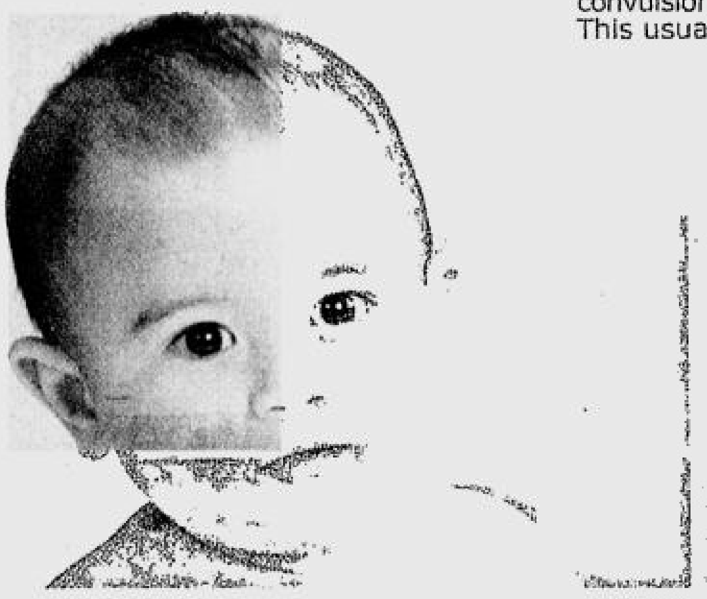
Fever in Children

Having a child with fever is an anxiety-provoking situation that many parents never want to experience. Fortunately, most of these episodes are due to minor illnesses. Since most children will suffer from fever at one time or another, it is very important for you to know what causes fever and what to do when your child has one.

What is fever?

…ou may feel that your child has a …mperature that's warmer than usual. Does … have fever? It is important to remember …hat although the average normal body …emperature is 37° C, it may vary among …eople. There is also a regular daily pattern …hat varies from person to person. Upon …g up in the morning, body temperature …s …owest, and is highest in the late …on. Most children have a higher body …ture than adults and have more …iations. Food, extra clothing, anxiety, …ysical activity or exercise can lead …mporary increase in temperature

… parents believe that fever is any …ture above the usual for their child. … there is no exact definition of fever … doctors, a temperature of 37.8° C is … considered as the beginning of …



What causes fever?

Once you are sure that your child has fever, it may mean a lot of things. That's because fever is not an illness in itself. It is a symptom of an illness, often from a viral or bacterial infection. It may also be secondary to an injection or a vaccination given to a child. Thus, fever is a sign, a form of warning, that your child's body is fighting the infection.

Is fever dangerous?

Fever makes your child's body unfavorable to the microbe or virus. Through the body's high temperature, fever impairs the ability of the harmful organism to replicate and even helps kill some viruses. What's more, the number of white blood cells that are responsible for killing both the microbes and the infected cells are similarly increased.

However, there is a very small number of children between the ages of three months to six years who will develop convulsions associated with an abrupt increase in temperature. This usually lasts for less than five minutes.

Treating your child's fever

… the … h…

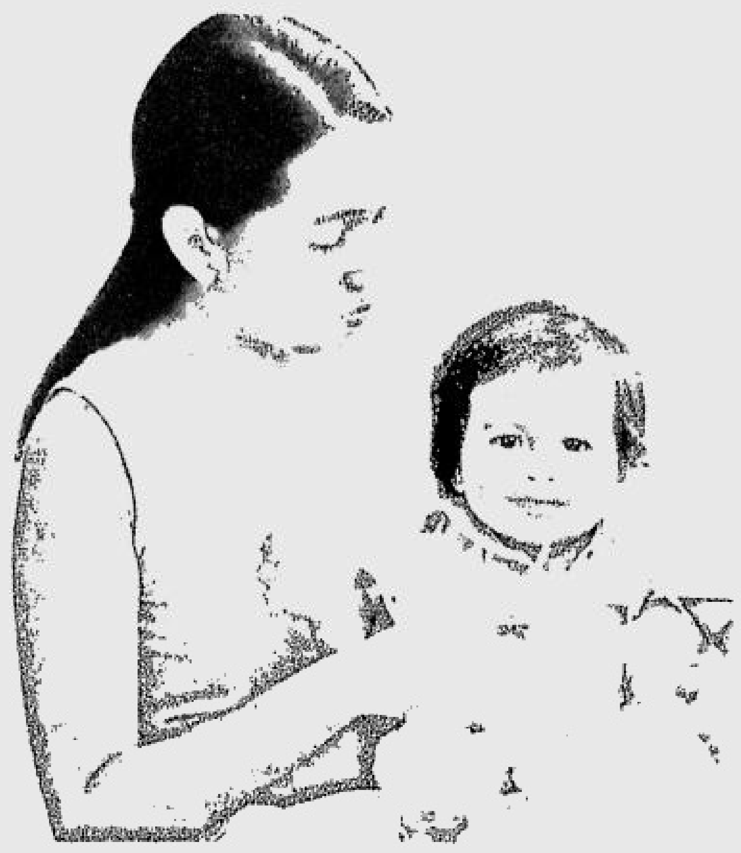
… tre…

… lots o… liqu… water o… juice… freque…y. Babies who are still breastfeeding shoul… continu… to breastfeed for comfort … …ration.

… …fan… …ee… feel …etter.

If th… temperatur… … or higher, sponge your …hild with wate… that is neither hot nor cold. Cold wate… is never recommended inc… it prevents the …dy from releasing heat. Thi… will … so cause …our child … should …oh…

… t…e … imb… with th…



How to measure body temperature

The standard for measuring body temperature is the glass thermometer.

ORAL: Oral temperature may be taken in older children who can hold the thermometer, without biting, under their tongues with their lips closed. The oral thermometer, which has a long bulb at the end, should be left inside the mouth for three minutes.

RECTAL: Rectal temperatures give the most accurate reading, and are best for babies younger than two months. To take the rectal temperature, the infant is placed on his back with knees bent towards the chest. The bulb end of the glass thermometer, lubricated with oil or petroleum jelly, is inserted into the anus 3/4 to 1 inch deep. It should be held in place for three minutes, withdrawn and read.

AXILLARY: Axillary temperature, which is taken in the armpit, is the safest way to take the temperature. The thermometer is placed in the armpit with the arm held against the body for three minutes.

Today, technology has offered new and easier ways to read body temperature such as the digital thermometer and the ear thermometer.

Tips on using the thermometer

- Shake the thermometer and allo… to settle down before using it
- Be sure that it … not cracke… b… do not touch the mercury with you… …ds a tissue and dispose properly. Wipe the thermometer and was… wit… …oap … cool wate… after every use. Avo… …vater it may break you… thermom… Never …ave … …hild … tempe…ature … the …

Medicating your child's fever

In children, the most common medicine used to relieve fever is paracetamol. It is given at a dose of 5-10 mg per kilogram of body weight every four hours. Infant drops is the concentrated preparation, which delivers medicine in a smaller amount. Each preparation will require a different dose, thus, always make sure that you are giving your child the right preparation and the right amount of medicine. If you are unsure of how much to give, ask your doctor.

To give a suspension, use a medicine cup or kitchen-measuring spoon. Also, make sure you shake the medicine bottle well before pouring the suspension onto the spoon.

When to consult your doctor

Although most of the time a child's fever is due to a minor illness, there are usually symptoms that can help explain where the fever is coming from: cough, colds, vomiting, and diarrhea. If the temperature has gone down and your child looks better, chances are he's out of danger. But since the height of fever or the response or lack of it to medication will not give a clue to the severity of the illness, there are several indications that will tell you that your child should be brought to the doctor:

- If your baby is less than three months old, do not hesitate to bring him in since fever in young infants can be an early warning sign of an infection.
- If your baby refuses to eat or drink less than the usual, dehydration can set in. Infants less than six months old are more vulnerable to this. Watch out for a decrease in diaper changes as a measure of dehydration.
- Even if your child is more than three months old, if a fever does not subside on the 2nd or 3rd day, consult a doctor.
- Regardless of the temperature, if your child is irritable and weak, bring him to the doctor.
- Rashes, difficulty of breathing, pain or difficulty in urination, stiff neck, ear and abdominal pain indicate that you should consult your doctor.
- Anytime that you are uncomfortable with the way your child looks or acts, do not hesitate, consult your doctor.

Tips on giving medicine to your child

- Don't give any fever medication for more than three days without consulting a doctor. If he is sleeping well, there is no need to wake him to check his temperature or to give the medication unless specified by a doctor.
- Take his temperature before giving any additional medication to track his response to the medicine and lessen the unnecessary intake of medicine.
- Always keep the medicine out of his reach.
- Aspirin is NOT recommended to persons 9 years and below due to a risk of a liver disorder associated with aspirin.

This health education campaign is made possible through a grant from WELLNESS INSTITUTE CONSUMER HEALTH

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.

INFOBOX

Fever in Children

Having a child with fever is an anxiety-provoking situation that many parents never want to experience. Fortunately, most of these episodes are due to minor illnesses. Since most children will suffer from fever at one time or another, it is very important for you to know what causes fever and what to do when your child has one.

What is fever?

You may feel that your child has a temperature that's warmer than usual. Does he have fever? It is important to remember that although the average normal body temperature is 37° C, it may vary among people. There is also a regular daily pattern that varies from person to person. Upon waking up in the morning, body temperature is at its lowest, and is highest in the late afternoon. Most children have a higher body temperature than adults and have more daily variations. Food, extra clothing, anxiety, and physical activity or exercise can lead to a temporary increase in temperature.

Most parents believe that fever is any temperature above the usual for their child. Although there is no exact definition of fever among doctors, a temperature of 37.8° C is generally considered as the beginning of a fever.

Medicating your child's fever

In children, the most common medicine used to relieve fever is paracetamol. It is given at a dose of 5-10 mg per kilogram of body weight every four hours. Infant drops is the concentrated preparation, which delivers medicine in a smaller amount. Each preparation will require a different dose, thus, always make sure that you are giving your child the right preparation and the right amount of medicine. If you are unsure of how much to give, ask your doctor.

To give a suspension, use a medicine cup or kitchen-measuring spoon. Also, make sure you shake the medicine bottle well before pouring the suspension onto the spoon.

When to consult your doctor

Although most of the time a child's fever is due to a minor illness, there are usually symptoms that can help explain where the fever is coming from: cough, colds, vomiting, and diarrhea. If the temperature has gone down and your child looks better, chances are he's out of danger. But since the height of fever or the response or lack of it to medication will not give a clue to the severity of the illness, there are several indications that will tell you that your child should be brought to the doctor:

- If your baby is less than three months old, do not hesitate to bring him in since fever in young infants can be an early warning sign of an infection.
- If your baby refuses to eat or drink less than the usual, dehydration can set in. Infants less than six months old are more vulnerable to this. Watch out for a decrease in diaper changes as a measure of dehydration.
- Even if your child is more than three months old, if a fever does not subside on the 2nd or 3rd day, consult a doctor.
- Regardless of the temperature, if your child is irritable and weak, bring him to the doctor.
- Rashes, difficulty of breathing, pain or difficulty in urination, stiff neck, ear and abdominal pain indicate that you should consult your doctor.
- Anytime that you are uncomfortable with the way your child looks or acts, do not hesitate, consult your doctor.

What causes fever?

Once you are sure that your child has fever, it may mean a lot of things. That's because fever is not an illness in itself. It is a symptom of an illness, often from a viral or bacterial infection. It may also be secondary to an injection or a vaccination given to a child. Thus, fever is a sign, a form of warning, that your child's body is fighting the infection.

Is fever dangerous?

Fever makes your child's body unfavorable to the microbe or virus. Through the body's high temperature, fever impairs the ability of the harmful organism to replicate and even helps kill some viruses. What's more, the number of white blood cells that are responsible for killing both the microbes and the infected cells are similarly increased.

However, there is a very small number of children between the ages of three months to six years who will develop convulsions associated with an abrupt increase in temperature. This usually lasts for less than five minutes.

Treating your child's fever

Because fever is the body's normal response to infection, the main goal of treatment is to keep your child as comfortable as possible since the higher the temperature, the worse the child feels. The following should be done:

- Dress him in light clothes. Avoid heavy jackets and long sleeves.
- Keep him in a cool and quiet environment, and avoid undue stress.
- Give him lots of liquids—water or juices—frequently. Babies who are still breastfeeding should continue to breastfeed for comfort and rehydration.
- Carrying infants help them to sleep and feel better.
- If the temperature is 39° C or higher, sponge your child with water that is neither hot nor cold. Cold water is never recommended since it prevents the body from releasing extra heat. This will also cause your child to shiver. Alcohol baths or rubs should likewise be avoided. There is a risk of alcohol poisoning as alcohol can be absorbed through the skin.
- Sponge the limb one at a time until it feels cool to the touch. Dry limbs and tuck under a blanket. Proceed with the rest of the body and continue with the face and forehead.

How to measure body temperature

The standard for measuring body temperature is the glass thermometer.

ORAL: Oral temperature may be taken in older children who can hold the thermometer, without biting, under their tongues with their lips closed. The oral thermometer, which has a long bulb at the end, should be left inside the mouth for three minutes.

RECTAL: Rectal temperatures give the most accurate reading, and are best for babies younger than two months. To take the rectal temperature, the infant is placed on his back with knees bent towards the chest. The bulb end of the glass thermometer, lubricated with oil or petroleum jelly, is inserted into the anus 3/4 to 1 inch deep. It should be held in place for three minutes, withdrawn and read.

AXILLARY: Axillary temperature, which is taken in the armpit, is the safest way to take the temperature. The thermometer is placed in the armpit with the arm held against the body for three minutes.

Today, technology has offered new and easier ways to read body temperature such as the digital thermometer and the ear thermometer.

Tips on using the thermometer

- Shake the thermometer and allow the mercury to settle down before using it.
- Be sure that it is not cracked. If it is broken, do not touch the mercury with your hands. Use a tissue and dispose properly.
- Wipe the thermometer and wash with soap and cool water after every use. Avoid hot water as it may break your thermometer.
- Never leave your child alone while taking his temperature.
- Keep the thermometer in a safe place and out of your child's reach.

Tips on giving medicine to your child

- Don't give any fever medication for more than three days without consulting a doctor.
- If he is sleeping well, there is no need to wake him to check his temperature or to give the medication unless specified by a doctor.
- Take his temperature before giving any additional medication to track his response to the medicine and lessen the unnecessary intake of medicine.
- Always keep the medicine out of his reach.
- Aspirin is NOT recommended to persons 9 years and below due to a risk of a liver disorder associated with aspirin.

This health education campaign is made possible through a grant from

WELLNESS INSTITUTE
CONSUMER HEALTH

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

What You Should Know About Biogesic for Kids

Finally, Biogesic for Kids is here to give your child delicious fever relief!

Biogesic, the #1 paracetamol brand Filipinos have trusted for more than 30 years, now comes in a suspension format for children. Because it's from Biogesic, moms can be sure it's safe and effective in relieving children's fever, aches, and pains.

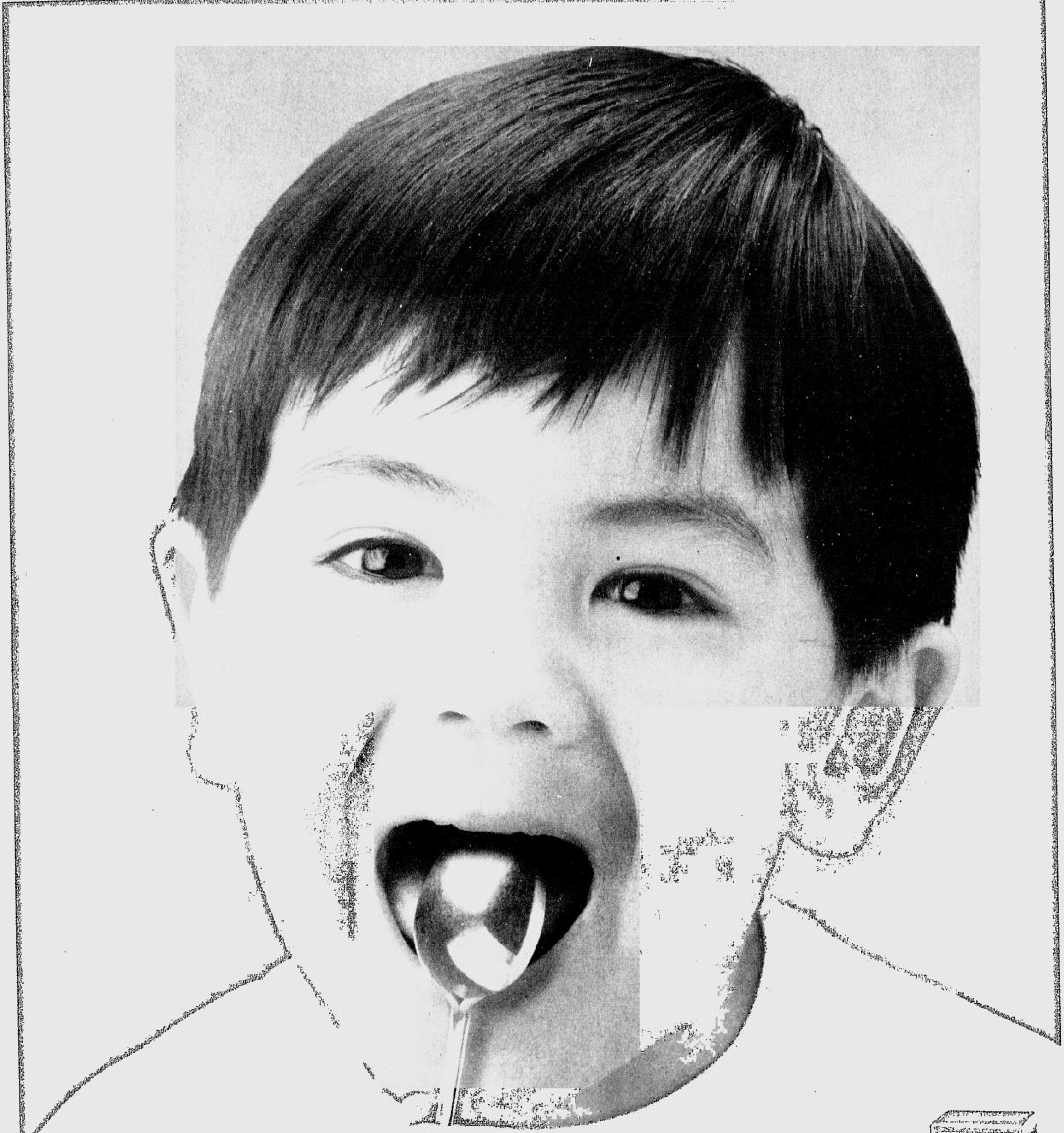
Biogesic for Kids uses a breakthrough technology called **Taste*Rite*™**, which significantly reduces the bitter medicine taste of paracetamol so that children will taste Biogesic suspension's yummy flavor and not the medicine. So you won't have a hard time giving your child medicine, each and every time until his recovery from fever.

Biogesic for Kids is available in two delicious child-friendly flavors, orange and strawberry. It is also available in various dosage formats to suit children of all ages: 100 mg/mL infant drops, 120 mg/5 mL suspension for children 2-6 years old and 250 mg/5 mL suspension for children 7-12 years old.

Because your child's safety is your biggest priority, Biogesic for Kids comes in child-safe packaging—its heat-sealed plastic bottles with safety lock caps will help prevent accidental drug ingestion.

With all these—the name, the technology, the taste, the formats, and the safe packaging—Biogesic for Kids remains affordable compared to other brands. Truly, Biogesic for Kids is the medicine your children will love, and you will trust! Ask your doctor about Biogesic for Kids now!

PARACETAMOL
BIOGESIC



Sa sobrang sarap, pagpapagaling walang hirap.

15 mL
PARACETAMOL
BIOGESIC®
100 mg/mL SUSPENSION
(ORAL DROPS)
60 mL
PARACETAMOL
BIOGESIC®
120 mg/5 mL SUSPENSION

Introducing Biogesic for Kids!

Ang pinagkakatiwalaan mong Biogesic, may Biogesic for Kids na para sa lagnat ng 'yong anak. At may **Taste*Rite*™** para ang yummy orange at strawberry flavors talagang magugustuhan niya. Siguradong tuloy-tuloy ang paggaling niya!

now!

PARACETAMOL

BIOGESIC

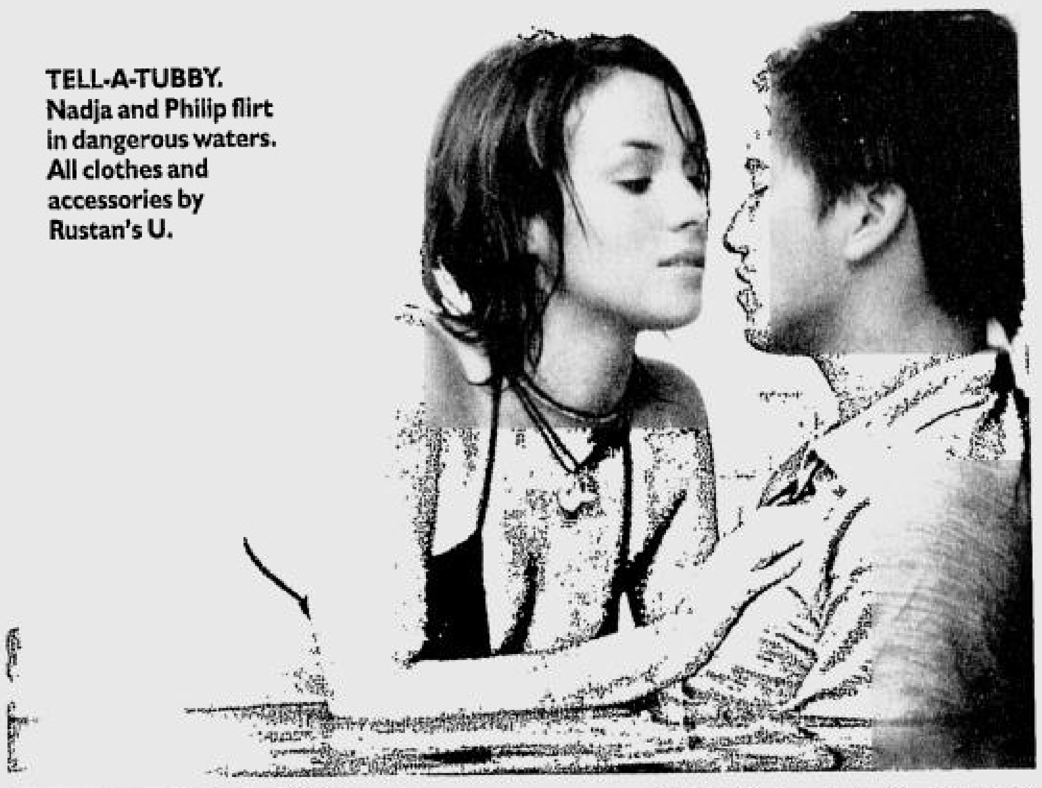
for kids

Ang sarap magpagaling ni mommy!

Meet the tortured and twisted but fashionably dressed young souls of Rustan's U College

STRIPED AND SUNNY SENSATIONS. Kat and Nadja in citrus shades of summer

Rules of attraction



TELL-A-TUBBY. Nadja and Philip flirt in dangerous waters. All clothes and accessories by Rustan's U.

SANDY SEDUCTION. Paolo and Kat in pensive states of dress and undress

Text by Tim Yap
Photos by Victor Consunji

MEET the characters of U College—a suburban liberal arts campus with headmaster Joel Tantoco of Rustan's at the helm.

Rustan's U is filled with quirky kids out to live their lives in the best way they know how. Theirs is a small society just like yours and mine, where every person's life finds itself entangled with another's, resulting in scandal, mayhem and sophisticated comedy.

Enter Kat. A reluctant bright, young thing who tries to find her roots in miniskirts and tie-up sandals. Fabric is her language.

Enter Paolo. Beautiful and brooding, he has no idea why he is in a liberal arts college. Everybody loves him, but he has eyes only for Kat.

And this is when Nadja enters the picture. She is a poetess who is at a loss for words when it comes to Paolo, who doesn't even give a thought about her.

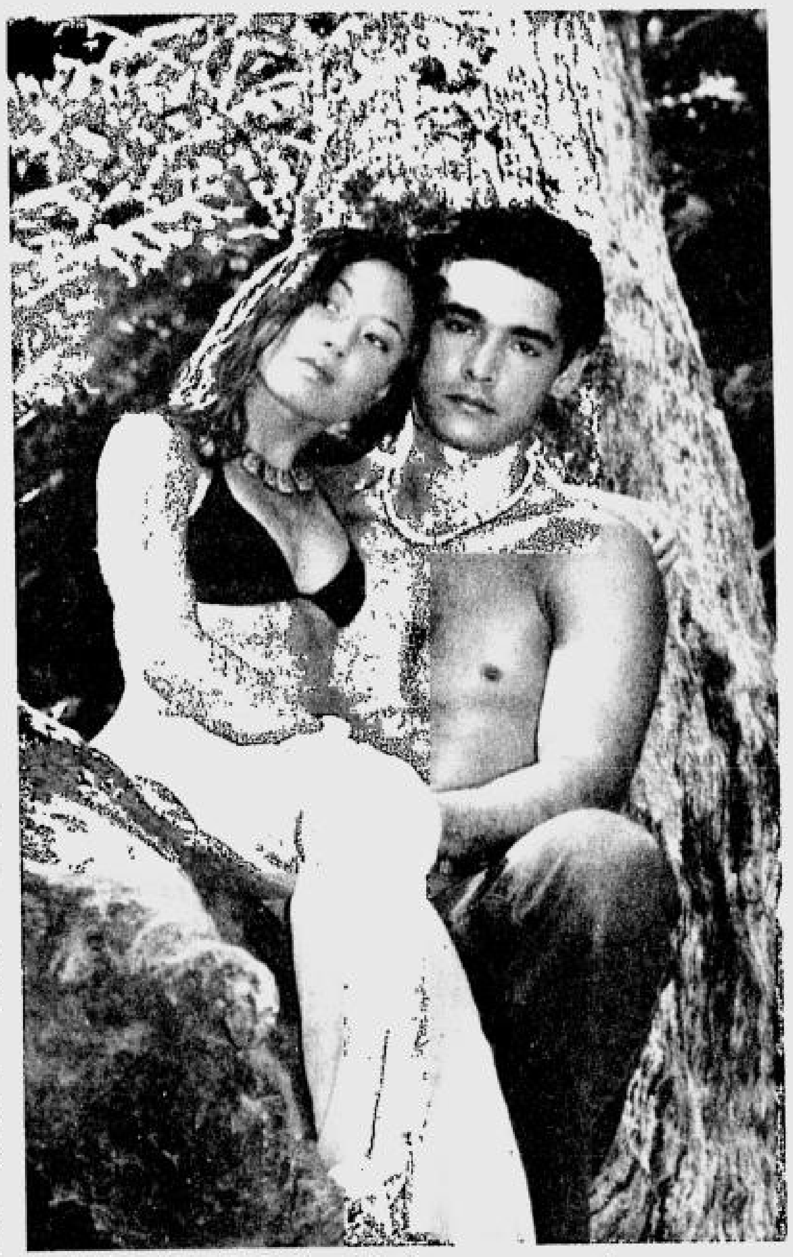
Enter Philip. A boy eternally on the crossroads, but never when it comes to fashion. Perfectly accessorized, he makes the perfect accessory. Nadja uses him, and he plays along.

Enter Jake. He has been kicked out a year before but still remains on campus to prey on unknowing freshmen.

As you can see, none of the above are exactly the most normal of personalities. But we don't really care about them—we care about their clothes.

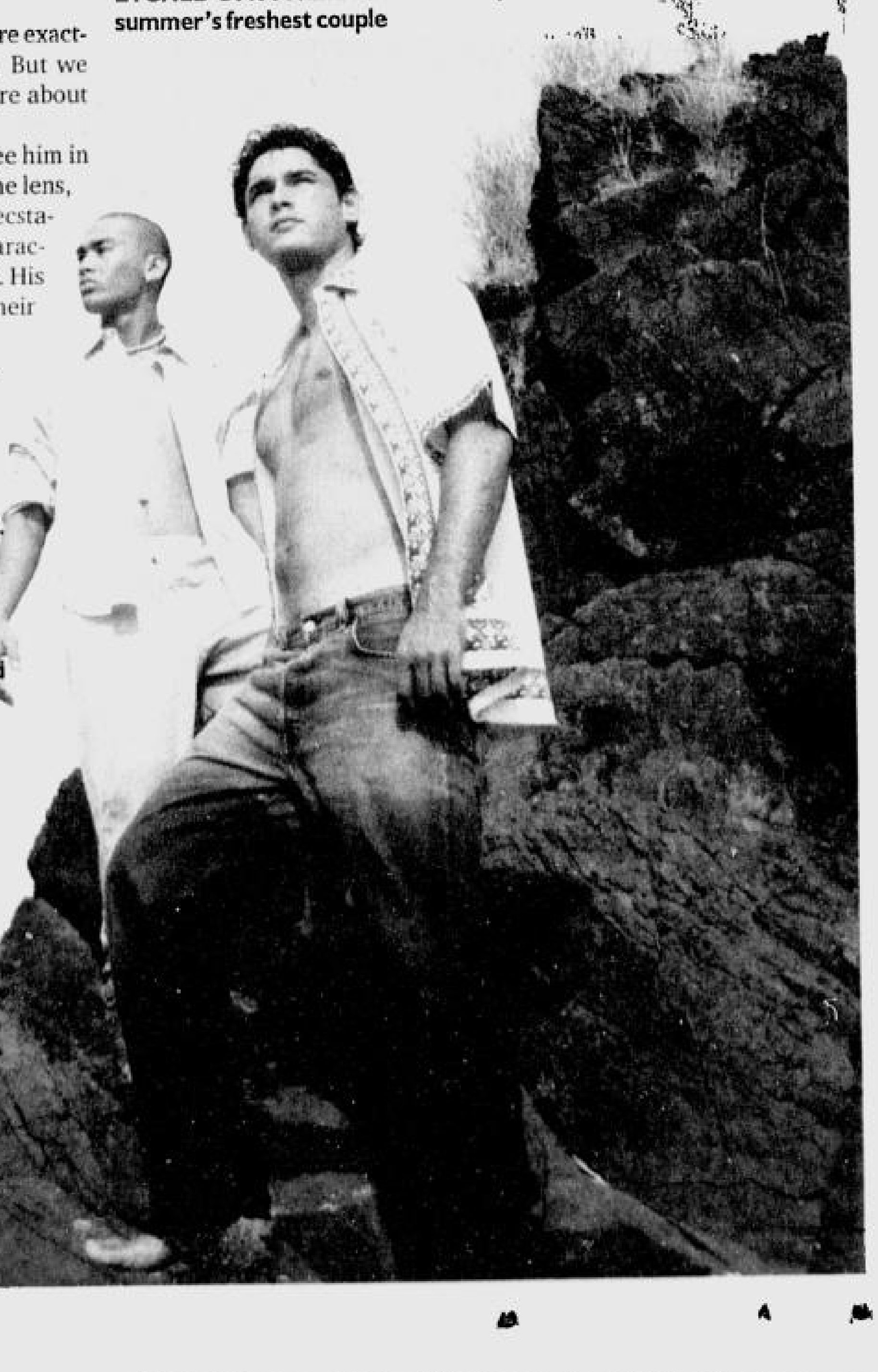
Enter Victor Consunji. You won't see him in this shoot, for he is the man behind the lens, hearing every whisper, every stifled ecstasy, and shamelessly exposes the characters' fashionably dirty linen before us. His eye captures the elegant torture of their privileged lives.

Action speaks louder than words, but fashion speaks decibels more.



ETCHED ON A TREE. Kat and Paolo, summer's freshest couple

WET, WET, WET. Nadja and Kat soak themselves in U bikinis, summer's must-haves



UP, UP, UP THE MOUNTAIN. Jake and Paolo hike onto the undiscovered trail in U men's light printed shirts

Prepare to bare, get a body scrub

By Jules Alcantara
2bU! Correspondent

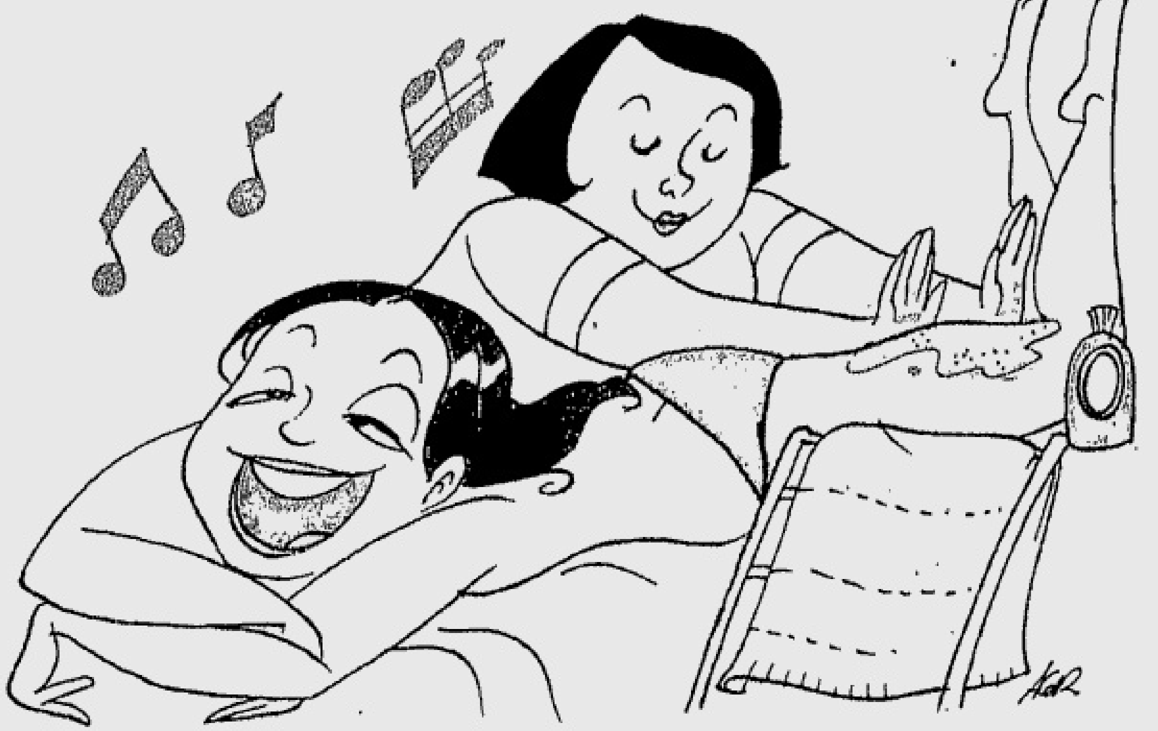


ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

SUN. Sweat. Sand.

The words could only mean one thing—it's summer once again.

With the sun at its fiercest (I sometimes wish I live in some remote part of Alaska), this is the perfect time to show some skin. Haltered tops, short shorts and short skirts are de rigueur.

It's time to don that itsy bitsy bikini and soak up some sun—with a generous heap of SPF-containing product slathered all over the body, of course. If your ultimate goal is to get a nice, even tan before the season is over, you need to slough off all the dead skin that makes for pasty, pale and uneven skin.

Normally, pre-beach preparation meant making "hilod" every part of the body that is accessible.

But nowadays, instead of the nice, flat stone or face towel or the "bimpo" for removing grime from the body, there are now a variety of choices such as hand glove scrubs, pumice stones and nets available in beauty shops and supermarkets. Just about every beauty brand carries some sort of body scrub.

The thing is, your arms can only go so far and there are portions of your body that are hard to reach. You need someone to remove stubborn dirt and grime.

For journalistic purposes and also because I needed cleansing, I decided to get a body scrub. If you plan to worship the sun or dare and be bare this summer, then body scrubs are a necessary luxury.

I tried two distinctly different places that offered the same service. One is a clinic and the other a spa.

Belo Medical Group

Although technically a clinic, BMG has a spa-like atmosphere, with a very friendly staff. Nilda, my designated grime buster, briefly explained the procedure.

She asked me to take off my clothes and undergarments and put on disposable underwear. Although a little shy about going naked, I figured out that it was necessary.

When she told me she usually attended to an average of six to seven customers a day, I stopped worrying about my extra poundage.

I was asked to lie on my tummy and relax. Using generous amounts of salt-like grains that smelled like vanilla or honey, Nilda began to scrub the back of my legs and thighs, working all the way to the nape of my neck.

She spent some time on my back and derriere area, which she said were usually hard to reach.

Despite the brisk scrubbing, I felt so relaxed and peaceful, I found myself literally drooling.

By the time she exfoliated my arms and elbows, I had already surrendered myself to physical bliss.

She then asked me to lie on my back so she could work on the front portion of my body. I felt a little giddy when she worked on my feet, thinking I didn't need to go to the parlor for my regular foot scrub. Again she worked her way up to my knees, thighs, groin all the way up to my shoulders and neck.

> You need someone to remove stubborn dirt and grime

As she scrubbed my armpits, she said women of all ages, from teenagers to young matrons, always requested for extra attention in this area. One of the benefits of getting constant body scrubs is any discoloration in the armpit area is removed. I decided that the procedure was going to be money well spent.

A good 30 minutes was spent removing "libag" and other filth. I had never felt so scrubbed and buffed in my entire life. I then took a shower to remove all the salts. As I showered, my skin literally felt and looked shiny, smooth, not to mention, dewy.

No more rough, scaly skin! I felt like every part of my body was as smooth as a baby's bottom.

Nilda asked if I wanted a bleaching agent applied to my skin. The agent was natural and lotion-like, peroxide-free and made of grapefruit extract. Those wanting to get a tan this summer should probably skip this procedure but since I was not planning to hit the beach this summer, I asked her to go ahead.

(*Belo Medical Group is located at 305 Tomas Morato corner Scout Madrinan, South Triangle, Quezon City. Call for an appointment at (02) 373-3355/(02) 373-4088*)

Urban Spa

With its interior design, you immediately realize that you are in for an hour of pampering the moment you enter the Urban Spa.

Marie, my attendant, also asked me to remove my clothes and to wear disposable underwear. Soothing music from Enya and the smell of herbal oil filled the room that I wanted to curl up and sleep. I was so comfortable I could barely hear Marie asking me to lie on my tummy.

A Dead Sea salt scrub was used to exfoliate dead skin and grime. Marie had a light touch, perfect if you are the sensitive type. Although if you prefer a little more pressure, you can advise your attendant.

Marie constantly asked me if I wanted more pressure and I just bobbed my head in agreement. The slow, deliberate and unhurried movement from the back of my legs to the nape of my neck was sheer bliss. The scrubbing was a combination of scrub and massage which I fully appreciated since I just come from a long and tiring weekend.

Although I was conscious that I was being kneaded and scrubbed, the atmosphere was so relaxing that I almost succumbed to the call of Morpheus. I was jolted from my reverie when Marie started to scrub the soles of my feet. It was tickling that I giggled a lot!

Marie asked me to lie flat on my back so she could work on the front portion of my body. I must have dozed off then, only surfacing again when she woke me up and told me to rinse off.

As I rinsed off the salts, I felt so cleansed and relaxed at the same time. I couldn't wait to go home, put on my PJs and crawl into bed.

But the best was yet to come. Marie told me to lie on the bed again then she slathered honey all over my body to moisturize the skin. I was wishing I was in Boracay, sipping Piña Colada and enjoying a fantastic Swedish massage.

(*Urban Spa is located at 5th Level, Shangri-La Plaza; tel. (02) 687-6196/(02) 687-6195. Call for an appointment.*)

Do you want to be part of the 2bU! family?

IF writing is your passion and meeting deadlines is a breeze for you, we invite you to become one of us.

First, tell us about yourself—who you are, what you do, what makes you tick. Tell us about your disastrous blind date, if you wish.

Then, choose from the following (or if you're feeling up to it, you can work on everything).

Write a movie, album, book or TV show review.

Make a profile of your favorite personality (He/she doesn't have to be someone we know.)

Impress us with a travelogue.

Write a feature story on something you think we should know about.

Please make sure each article is less than 500 words.

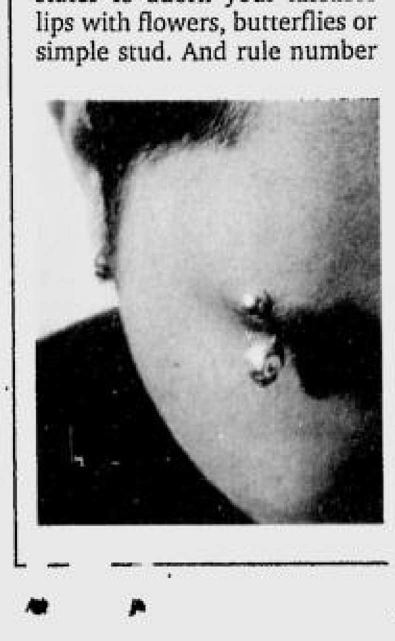
Send this, along with your other work samples (no poetry, please), to ls_2bu@inquirer.com.ph.

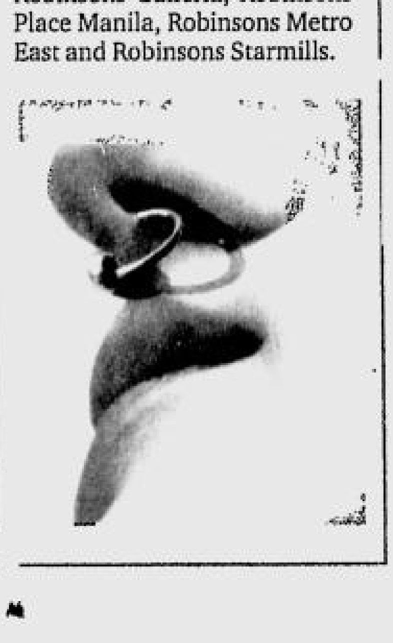
We will be accepting applications until May 7.

Eye-catching silver accessories

STAND out with Silverworks' latest collection, which include surgical steel accessories. The fashion dictate is to adorn all body parts that have withstood piercing. Rule number one is to embellish your belly buttons with "falling stars" for that sexy sway. Rule number two states to adorn your kissable lips with flowers, butterflies or simple stud. And rule number three simply says to come across hip by adorning your face with a nose ring or piercing your eyebrow with skulls and cobras. A surefire way to catch anyone's eye during this sizzle spell.

Drop by at any of Silverworks' Robinsons Mall outlets: Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Place Manila, Robinsons Metro East and Robinsons Starmills.





Robinsons Department Store
Summer Stripes
LIBERTE
A Robinsons Exclusive
www.rds.com.ph
Fashion everyday
Robinsons Galleria | Robinsons Place Manila, Novaliches, Imus, Sta.Rosa, Cebu, Bacolod, Iloilo | Robinsons Metro East | Robinsons Starmills Pampanga
Robinsons Town Mall Los Baños | Starmall Shaw | Metropolis Star Alabang | Waltermart Sta. Rosa, Gen. Trias | Nepo Mall Pampanga

When was the last time you felt robbed?

Disappearing prepaid credits? Balances that don't add up? They can be frustrating and irritating. They can even leave you feeling like you've been robbed. Good thing Sun Cellular offers you Real-Time Balance Inquiry. Your prepaid balance is updated as you use it for voice calls and text messages. Plus, you get reminders of your peso balance expiration and your free text allocation so you know when you should reload your account. So relax. Sun Cellular has you covered.

There are two ways to access your account balance. For voice announcements, dial 221 and follow the instructions. For text message announcements, type *221#, send, and wait for your balance through text.

sun
CELLULAR
Everything Important is Under the Sun

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

2BU! to be young • to be you • to be young • to be young • To be you!

2BU! SURVEY

What's the best thing that happened to you this summer?

BEING with my family during the Holy Week. I didn't go to Boracay with friends. We went to seven different churches around the metropolis, like Christ the King, Edsa Shrine, Pinaglabanan Church, for the traditional Visita Iglesia. I had the chance to recollect my thoughts, thank God for all the blessings and, of course, repent for all my sins. This was very rare because I usually go out of town with friends during Holy Week.— Cheryl, 24

By Pam Pastor

SAME old TV shows, same old bed, same old pajamas day after day after day. If you think you've been wasting your summer away, find joy in the fact that it's not yet too late. You still have a month or so left. Get your butt moving, it's time for some action. Take your cue from these young people who have been having a blast. And remember, the best adventures are created out of nothing.

> Don't waste your vacation by staying in bed and watching TV all day. It's time to make things happen

Watching the first three seasons of "Friends" with my girlfriend during the Holy Week.—**Jugs, 24**

I finally kissed school goodbye—for good.—**Suburban Wit, 20**

Making out with my ex-boyfriend! And mountain climbing with my cousins.—**Ruthie**

I learned how to drive.—**Diego, 18**

Little surprises that turn out really good... like having a newfound friend that makes me feel I'm worth a lot... and the release of the 1.5-liter bottle of Vanilla Coke!—**Karl, 24**

OJT interviews.—Randy Dee, 20, CSB

Watching "Anger Management" with some new friends.—**JM, 20**

MY best experience was when I played for a basketball summer league and unfortunately, we only played two games because after our last game, my teammates made a riot with the committees.—Jay

PHOTOS: GILES AQUINO

Learning how to wakeboard and play golf. Since I'm not really athletic, for me it's a really cool summer experience.—**Jam, 20**

Diving with wild dolphins.—**Jon-Jon Rufino, 28**

Being the perfect bum!—**Leidy**

Went to *gimik* places in Antipolo in an owner-type jeep and wearing only *'pambahay*. It was so fun just being myself!—**TG, 18**

I went to Baguio on a whim.—**Rosa, 26**

Getting my first job! What a rush!—**CJ**

Playing at the Pulp Summerslam and sharing the experience with the one true love of my life, Karen. Falling in love again with the same woman with more passion than ever before.—**Eurd, bass and vocals, DahongPalay**

I was able to make up for the loss of my social life since I got a day job.—**Giles**

Discovering the joys of being a bum.—**Alex, 20**

Getting ordained to the order of deacons.—**Gelo**

I went to Boracay for the first time. I loved it.—**Cely, 22**

Rediscovering badminton.—**Pajammers, 22**

Doing absolutely nothing for a change. My brain cells have never been more grateful, I swear.—**Angela, 20**

Last week, walking in the rain around Makati and not complaining. It was like a blessing from heaven since it was so hot that day.—**Tammy, 20**

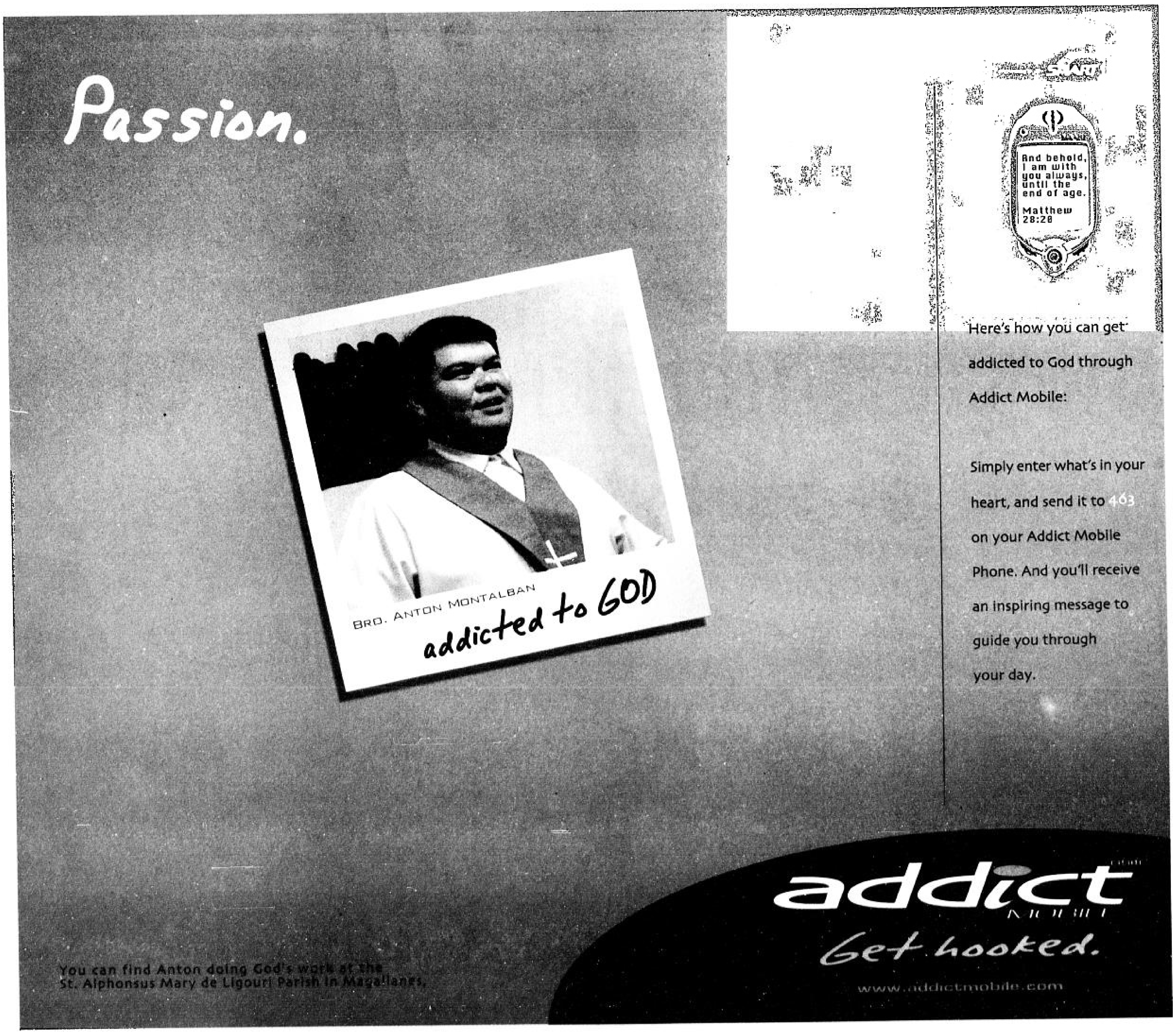
Recently, I got my first taste of the paintball challenge. I got to experience what it's like to be in a war. Making strategies, running, hiding, aiming and shooting enemies under the scorching heat of the sun. It was a fun experience but also an eye opener.—**Gifaloo, 22**

Playing badminton.—**Mark**

Being part of the 10 Accomplished Youth Organizations Search and meeting all the very inspiring finalists.—**Bam, 25**

Getting out of a horrible relation-

WHAT'S/ D3



Passion.

BRO. ANTON MONTALBAN
addicted to GOD

And behold, I am with you always, until the end of age.
Matthew 28:20

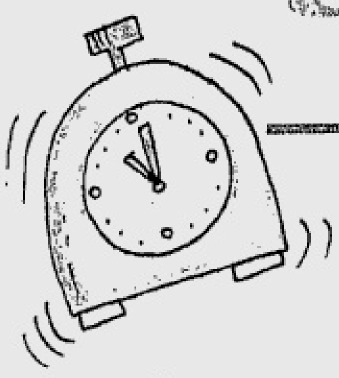
Here's how you can get addicted to God through Addict Mobile:

Simply enter what's in your heart, and send it to 463 on your Addict Mobile Phone. And you'll receive an inspiring message to guide you through your day.

You can find Anton doing God's work at the St. Alphonsus Mary de Ligouri Parish in Magallanes.

addict MOBILE
Get hooked.
www.addictmobile.com

Suddenly last summer—in a class



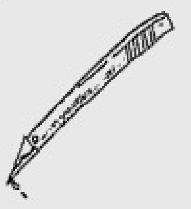


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

By Catherine Young
2bU! Correspondent

AH, SUMMER class! It's not the most relaxing way to spend a vacation, but I went through one last year. While most of my peers were in summer hibernation, I took up five units of biology so I could shift courses. This translated to six grueling hours of lecture and lab every day, with two exams every week.

I psyched myself up for the class. After all, I love biology (yeah, sure). I live near school, so the daily trips weren't a problem. My mom also teaches the subject, so I had a tutor on call.

There were about 40 of us in class. I immediately made friends with my seatmates Jason and Jerica.

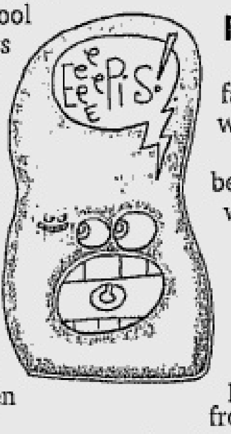
By week three, I thought I was already getting the hang of the summer school grind. I had read up on the chapters ahead, my test scores at that point weren't bad, and class was actually fun.

But I still had two weeks of animal life ahead. Then we were told to bring a couple of roaches the next day.

Two things were wrong with this assignment. One was the fact that I had to actually touch these bloody insects. Ever since one crawled on me during a blackout, I've never been exactly friendly to roaches.

The second thing wrong about the assignment was the timing. We just had our house bug-sprayed the night before.

So desperate was I that I resorted to texting Melissa, one of my good friends: "Hi Mel! Do you have any roaches in your house that you can spare?"



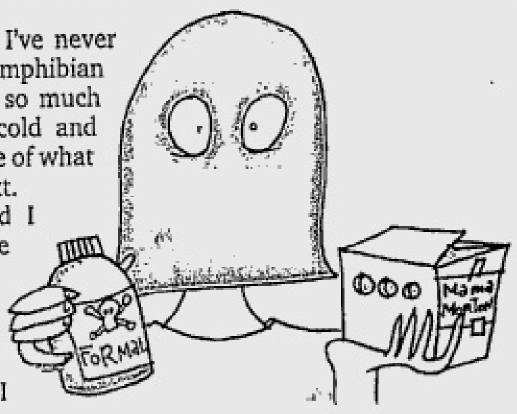
At 11 o'clock that night, thanks to her. I had three roaches secured in a jar.

Sweating it out in school isn't a bad way to spend your summer. Really.

Froggy woes

The last leg of biology was the fastest, but definitely not the easiest: we dissected frogs.

Like many students, I've never been a fan of the amphibian world. I think it's not so much the combination of cold and slime as our ignorance of what the animal will do next.



As my friends and I went out near the parking lot where the frogs were kept, I debated with my lab partner on who should be the one to catch our specimen. We wagered and I lost.

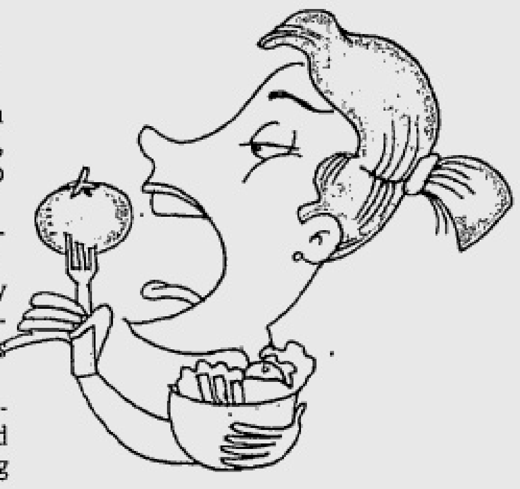
It was quite unfortunate that my partner and I had a very pregnant frog—the Mama Morton of the biological institute.

It took forever to put her to sleep—I was on the verge of drowning the poor thing in ether, but I guess her hormones were just too strong.

When she was finally sedated, we were instructed to make the first cut: down the back.

We pulled out clump after clump of grainy eggs. It took a while to get our specimen egg-free, so that by this time, Mama Morton was already rising from her stupor.

I was appalled at the absurdity of the situation—I with the bloody knife in my hand and my victim lying helpless on the dissecting pan, with her webbed feet struggling to get out of my grasp.



Our supply of ether—our sedative—was quickly dwindling, so the specimen's pain was unimaginable. I guess I could still feel sympathy for the creature because it was my first time.

Although I love science, I couldn't help but wish that we were operating on a synthetic specimen.

Exhausted and reeking of formaldehyde, I had to bring the specimen home—to keep in my freezer, for crying out loud.

I couldn't eat meat that night because it reminded me a lot of what went on that day.

Science, I thought, is definitely the most effective diet pill. Maybe that's why most of the researchers I see are in pretty good shape.

Days passed. One by one, the organs were exposed. Every lab period was a challenge to expose the desired area to meet my instructor's five-minute deadlines.

You can imagine us digging through flesh and bones, frantically searching for the kidneys that were stuck at the back, for the miserable liver that was flat and dehydrated and hanging by a vein, while my teacher's dreaded kitchen timer would go off with a screech.

But I must say the intricacies that go within every little creature will continue to amaze me. Yes, even creatures as unappealing as frogs.

Now as I write about it, summer school really isn't a bad way to spend your summer. While everyone else was bumming around and looking for things to do, I was learning something new everyday.

And if anything else, it's infinitely better to be mentally stressed for a month than prolong the torture for an entire semester. It's round two of summer school for me this month as I go through another five units of college. Wish me luck.

E-mail the author at cathy_young1@yahoo.com

That hot prospect:

the summer fling

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

By Arlene M. Paredes
2bU! Correspondent

WHEN I was a student, I excitedly looked forward to summer, its worry-free, not to mention, work-free nights and weekends. Summer also gave me longer days and nights, which boded well for a more colorful social life for me.

Summer may also afford the vacationer the chance to have a special someone. 2bU! gladly shares with you some tips on the summer fling:

Don't actively search for a romantic fling or date. Don't be obsessed about it. Don't give yourself a deadline, either.

But do keep your eyes and mind open during parties, or any other event involving your friends.

Remember, your friends have friends who go to another school. When you bump into each other and introductions are made, be friendly and polite, but be careful not to drop hints at once lest you scare away your prospect.

Don't hope too much. Once you've found or met an interesting person, take it really, really slow. Especially if the person just popped out in front of you in a mall, record bar, or Internet café. Don't declare you're in love at first sight lest you make yourself vulnerable to opportunists and pretenders. Get to know the person better. Build a friendship first.

Don't kiss on the first date. Better be sure of what you're willing to receive and give.

You may give the person your contact number. When the summer break is over and you're both back in your own separate worlds, you may want to renew ties. The person may even be of help to you in the future. But if the person showed any sign of being a potential stalker, then better keep your address and even landline to yourself. At least, you can easily change your SIM if you had already given your cell number.

Summer means a more adventurous social life. Why not have a fling?

Don't entertain flings if your boy- or girlfriend is abroad. Either you break up with him or her first before you entertain the thought. Think of it this way: will it be okay for you if him or her contemplates a fling just because you're away?

If you woke up one summer morning and realized you liked something more serious, it should not be a problem if you were both unattached. Tell the person what you think. But if you had made it clear to the person you were not the type who'd keep a lasting relationship, then you have a challenging situation. How do you prove to someone that you'd like to make your relationship work after having stressed you were not fit for a lasting relationship? Exert effort and sacrifice. Mean what you say. Put your words into action.

Do not trust someone you've just met. Don't be too trusting. It may not be wrong to bring along someone or a chaperone when you date.

May your summer be fun, exciting and worth remembering.

E-mail the author at lhen@postmark.net

What's the best thing that happened to you this summer?

From page D1

ship.—**Starlet O Hara, 23**

A new friend saved me from utter boredom last week. He treated me to lunch and made me laugh. Thanks, *pare*!—**Bobbie, 15**

Seeing topless babes on the beach. I love this summer.—**Daryl**

My best experience has been rediscovering my love for baking. I've made cinnamon rolls, lemon meringue pie and apple pie. I'm glad they were good and I haven't lost my touch.—**Charley, 25**

The best part of my summer was the time I went to the annual YFC's International Leaders Conference. *Astig sobra! Sulit yung init ng araw!*—**Gudo, 19**

I enjoyed my stay at my aunt's house in Laguna. For three nights, my cousins and I were drunk, together with some delicious-looking male friends of my cousin who really made me starve.—**Page, 22**

Finally being able to try something new at work by going out on the field and experiencing adventures every day.—**Lui Villarico, 23**

So far my best experience this summer is having summer classes. Joke!—**Nzo, 19**

My job-hunting experience. Tiring yet inspiring.—**Ryan, 22**

Puerto Galera in early April, Baguio next week and Iloilo next month. Beautiful places with beautiful people. Wow Philippines.—**Qpid, 19**

I've been able to talk to someone I met when he visited the Philippines, and the second time when he found me on the Internet almost every day for two weeks. And being able to chill out with my girl friends. The finest days of my two-week summer break.—**Cher, 19**

Baguio trip, which will hopefully be followed by a trip to Boracay with my loved ones.—**Kat23**

All-expenses-paid vacation in Boracay. You won't believe it. I went there with just P100 in my pocket.—**Johnwill, 22**

I wanted to ask this really great girl out for as long as I can remember. I finally got enough courage to do so a few days after classes ended. And she said yes.—**Christian, 22**

Meeting Cindy Kurleto, the goddess of beauty.—**Ed, 22**

Nagpunta ako sa Baguio, boring *kasi dito sa* house. *Sobrang lamig. Kahit ginaw na ginaw na ako*, okay *lang pag naiisip ko yung init dito sa* Manila.—**King, 22**

Harvesting *tilapia*.—**Eldric**

Went to Orchard with *barkada*. Basketball, Ping Pong, tennis, swimming, *bilao* lunch and movie-room siesta. Next stop, Puerto Azul.—**Allenthoughts, 22**

Nagkabulutong ako at nasira lahat ng plano ko for Holy Week!—**Deyey**

Feasting at famous Quiapo burger joints near each side of Quiapo overpass.—**Ellson "Badinger Z" Quismorio, 21**

Having visited my relatives in the province after so many years.—**Mikos, 22**

Cleaning my room. Found so many things I had been looking for.—**Janet, 17**

I hardly go out... It was the experience of anticipating motherhood and the joy and pain that come with it.—**Li'l Momah, 19**

Riding a plane for the very first time.—**Omark Katot, 22**

Had my first kiss. It was awkward, nerve-wracking and really wonderful.—**Buttercup, 16**

Gaining weight and not feeling guilty about it.—**Kit, 23**

The chance to host the Mossimo bikini summit in Boracay. Paid vacationing in the midst of heavenly bodies.—**TJ M, 26**

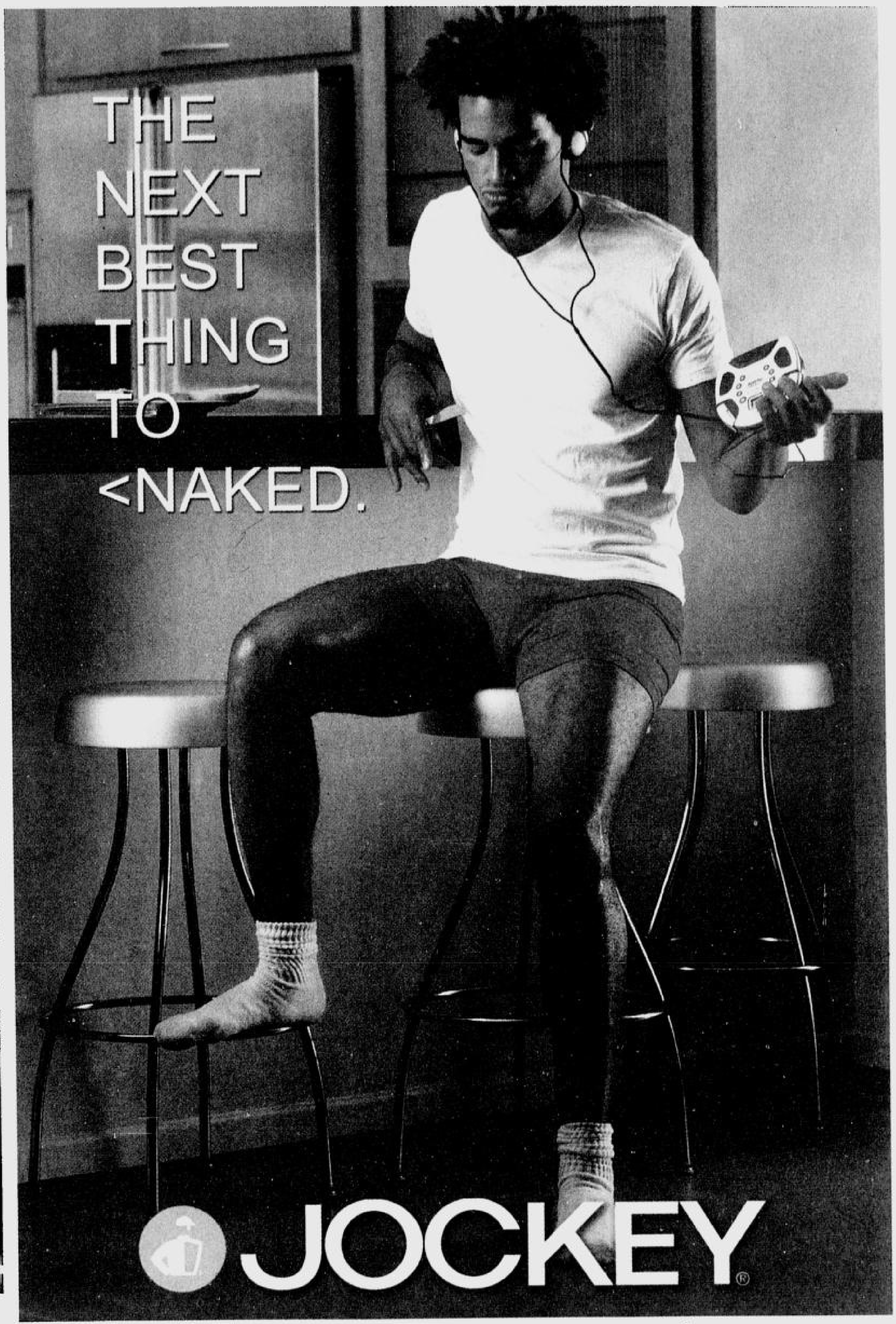
Nang 'sinagot' ako ng girlfriend *ko* two weeks ago. Also, the best experiences are when we talk heart-to-heart in the car before she goes home. Those moments are priceless and truly memorable.—**Raffy, 22**

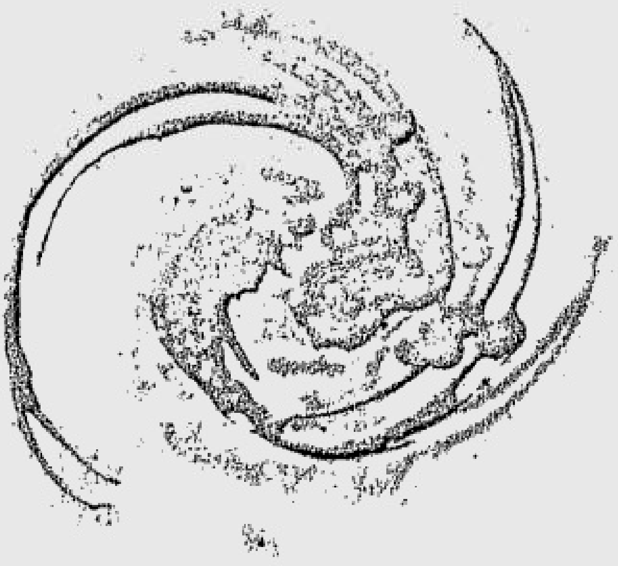
For the first time in years, I spent a two-day break with my family. We went to my mother's hometown in Bataan, which I haven't visited for a while. I haven't hit the beach yet, like I always do during summer, but so far, the trip with them was one thing that stirred my excitement because I have not done that for a long time. It may not be as exciting as my previous summers, but spending quality time with my family was certainly an experience worth cherishing.—**Chino, 26**

With reports from Giles Ivan Aquino

THIS summer, I've met a lot of new friends especially when I started with my first job in Accenture. Working is fun when your friends are around. But what I missed this summer is the long vacation.—Franco Marlo L. Cortez, 22

SPEND Holy Week with the people I love.—Asher





The best cuisine. Awesome ambiance. The new Summer Palace.
It's where Chinese cuisine and the atmosphere are in perfect harmony.
For reservations or inquiries, call 633-8888 extension 2738 or 2739 or 634-7373.

Edsa Shangri-La
MANILA

SYStEM:

The Addict Mobile Nati

01 to 03

Boracay

infusion + Dj Gianni

Steve Mills + Kapatid

Plus! Henna Tattoo • Ultimate Frisbee • Beach Volleyball & Football

And More!

May 1

HEY JUDE
Ultimate Frisbee
Wall Climbing
Alternative Funky Grooves
with Kapatid

Henna Tattoo Tents
Free Diving/Snorkeling

May 2

HEY JUDE
Beach Volleyball
Wall Climbing
DJ Gianni

Henna Tattoo Tents
Free Diving/Snorkeling

May 3

HEY JUDE
Beach Football
Wall Climbing
RnB DJ

Henna Tattoo Tents
Free Diving/Snorkeling

Cebu

THE DAWN

TFL Crew @ Vudu

Plus! Jamaican Nights • Karting • Wall Climbing •

And More!

May 1

KARTZONE
Karting (Qualifying)
Wall Climbing

VUDU
Party

May 2

KARTZONE
Karting (Finals)
Slot Car Race
Wall Climbing
The Dawn

VUDU
Fashion Show

May 3

CEBU BEACH CLU
Jamaican Nights

FREE entrance and exclusive privileges
for Addict Mobile subscribers!
Just inquire at the Addict Mobile booths for details.

add

Get

www.addict

SMART

AddiCt

nwide Launch-Party Series.

May 2003

Manila

Spundae

The No.1 Club in the USA

infusion + Dj Gianni

Plus! TC • Anton Ramos

And More!

May 2

MARIA OROSA, MALATE
Street Party

May 3

NBC TENT
Spundae
infusion
(Big Fish Party)

Subic

Anton Ramos

TFL Crew

Plus! • Jet-ski • Karting •
Slalom • Motorbike Clinic •
Wall Climbing

And More!

May 2

SUBIC BOARDWALK
Free Jet-Ski Rides,
Wall Climbing

SUBIC INTERNATIONAL
Tuason Karting Clinic
Slalom Driving Clinic
Motorbike Clinic

May 3

SUBIC BOARDWALK
Free Jet-Ski Rides,
Wall Climbing

SUBIC INTERNATIONAL
Tuason Karting Clinic
Slalom Driving Clinic
Motorbike Clinic

DJ Anton Ramos -
Subic Boardwalk

dict
MOBILE

ooked.

cmobile.com

BIGFISH

DRUGS

WHITE HOT. Valerie delos Santos, one of F&H's image models, shows us how to wear summer colors.

TECHNOPHILE. F&H also uses techno fabrics for the reveler in you, here on model Esaul.

LA VIE BOHO! Flesh it out with color and verve

FRINGE FLIRT. Eenie mini, only if you're skinny.

THE F&H MAN. Zak Hogen-esh from Australia embodies the hip, young urban guerilla

DARK MYSTERY. Cal Carrie's Mich Astudillo struts back to black.

Oh, those summer nights!

Text by Tim Yap
Photos by Carlo Ma. Guerrero

KNIT KNACKS. Look hot, stay cool in this F&H ensemble.

IF SUMMER lovin' gives you a blast this season, Folded and Hung—F&H to the hip, young and happening—should have one, too, after releasing its "sun up to sun down" collection at the recent Philippine Fashion Week.

With bold, sexy, flirty yet comfortable pieces styled by Chechel Joson, F&H presented summer party looks that would make you want to sing "Tell me more, tell me more!" while strutting down the runway that stretches from the bar to the beach.

Denim was a core part of the collection, worn long, short, cropped and capri-ed. There was also no shortage of mini skirts, from cotton to vintage, faded and washed.

F&H, popular among the style-setting but budget-wise youth, also went up the style scale by focusing on some major runway trends.

Cargo pants came in cotton twill khakis, and fatigues paired with cotton tees, hats and multipocketed bags for that laid-back urban guerrilla look—the fashionista can have fun while layering different pieces to achieve different looks.

Also prevalent in the latest collection were Asian and ethnic-inspired prints. Hot, hot, hot in the international summer 2003 runways are the scuba-inspired pieces of scuba wear—cotton spandex tops—bandeau, tanks, and tubes.

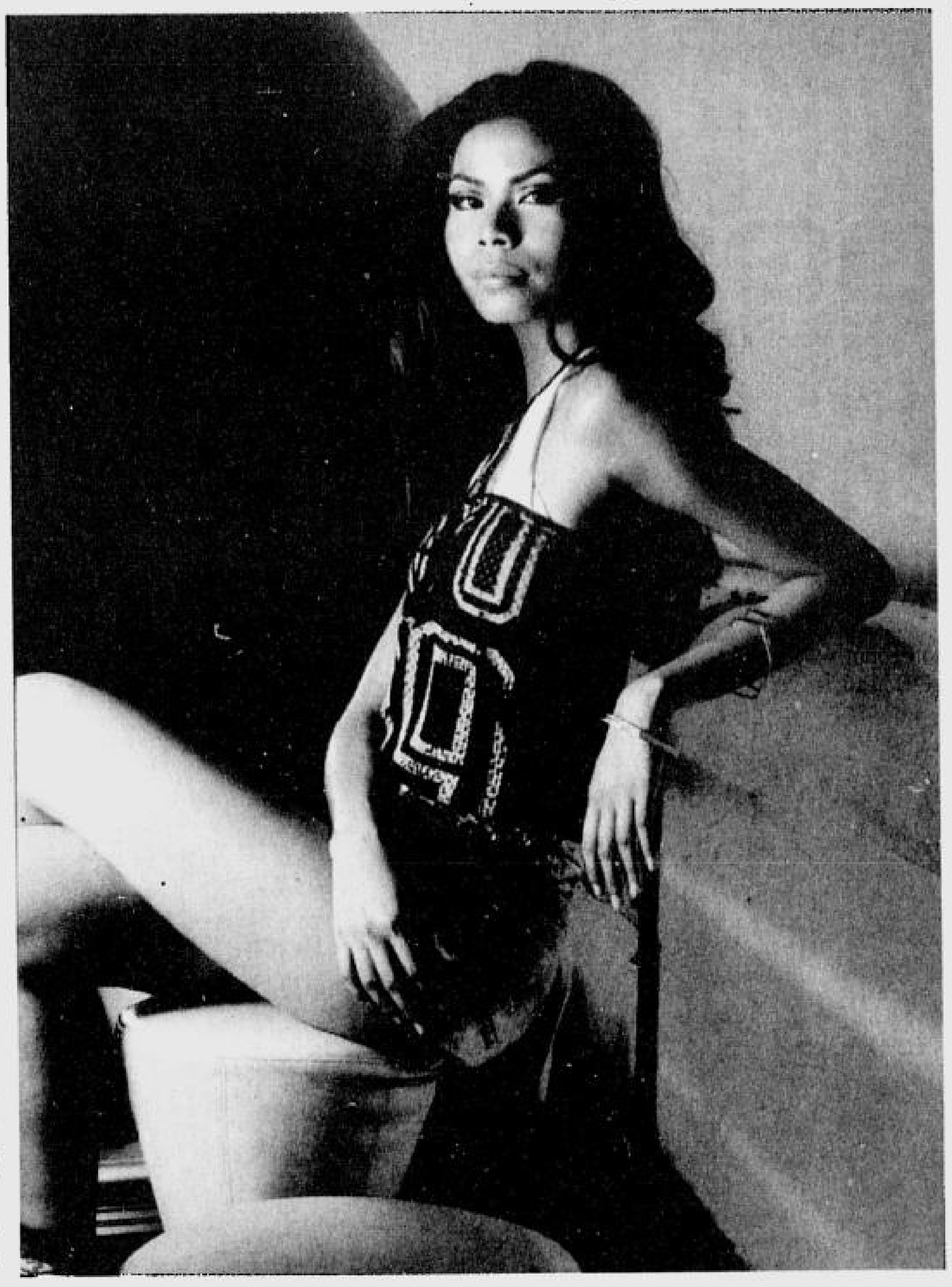
Image models

Joson gave tips for the fun, frivolous F&H fashionista. "You can accessorize with oversized framed sunglasses, colored bangles, bandannas, stilettos, slides, flip flops, metal chains and brass-plated earrings. The clue is to have as much fun as you want!"

Launched that night at the Glorietta Activity Center were image models Zak Hogen-esh, a 20-year-old Australian, and Valerie delos Santos, the much-sought after mannequin and one of the prime movers of the Professional Models Association of the Philippines. They join F&H image models statuesque ramp diva Raya Mananquil and über model Joey Mead.

For men, the basic cotton shirts in short sleeves and slim fits with detailed cuts, patterned prints and embroidery were the norm, while vintage distressed denim and cargo pants with multi pockets in khaki and fatigue were made especially for that young, "up-for-it" hip urbanite.

To go with the look, Joson funked up the men's collection with trainers, garrison belts, flip-flops, hats and metal chains—perfect for all-day-all-night indulgence.



SUMMER'S hottest with sizzling F&H image model Raya Mananquil, shot on location at Acquario by ace fashion image maker Ronnie Salvacion and styled by Chechel Joson

SUMMER FLING. Fun in layering F&H pastel pieces, from beach to street and back.

Whiteners won't transform 'morena' into 'mestiza'

Lora Gabol

IT'S quite ironic that I decided to do an article on skin whitening only a couple of weeks after I talked about self-tanners. But let me assure you I am not being fickle-minded.

Turn on the television or browse through a glossy magazine and you'll understand why there is so much interest in skin whiteners. Creamy-complexioned supermodels leave consumers clamoring for the same skin color, only to discover that no amount of whitening cream will turn caramel tint into milk.

It may surprise people to learn that even some fair-skinned women find the need for whitening products at one point in their lives. Finding a whitening product in my shopping basket, a saleslady muttered under her breath, "*Mestisa na gusto pa magpaputi. Nagsasayang ng pera.*"

It should be pointed out that while skin whitening is not that far removed from bleaching in the skin-care family tree, the two are not the same. Bleaching used to be the recourse of many women wishing to have Snow White's complexion. It lost its appeal when rumors about scary side effects and carcinogen spread.

Whitening gained popularity shortly after bleaching lost ground. But I think that even though the products generate a lot of sales, customers are still clueless about what they really do to the skin.

Differentiating between bleaching and modern whitening is actually easier than the regimen itself. Bleaching is designed to make the skin lighter than its original color, thus the need for strong chemicals. Whitening, on the other hand, only tries to bring back the skin tone you had as a baby.

Whitening has other benefits, too. It seeks to even out skin tone, reverse sun damage, clear dark spots and smoothen skin texture. That is the reason why even fair-skinned girls need the products. *Morenas* and true-blue Pinays, though they may have to give up dreams of alabaster skin, reap considerable benefits from whitening preparations. The products help to improve dramatically skin texture and generate a glow.

Whitening is for everybody. And the great news is everybody can find a product to suit her budget and skin type. Local manufacturers and affiliates of high-end international labels have released their own versions of the highly popular skin-care preparation, giving consumers more and more choices.

Godiva Licorice Skin Whitening range. The 100-percent Filipino line is one of the first to use all-natural licorice as the main lightening component in their products. Their line includes items for both face and body (even the underarms) and has expanded to basic makeup (with the introduction of their face powder).

Readily available and sold at reasonable prices, Godiva products make use of nature's own secrets and do not include artificial fragrances and coloring (potential allergens). I have made it a personal ritual to smooth on a generous amount of Godiva whitening body lotion before I hit the sheets at night. This is one of the few "creamy" products that don't leave a warm, sticky sensation, thank God. Even if it did, the baby-soft skin you have when you wake up will make the minor inconvenience worth it.

Godiva's face whitening cream is light and non-greasy, and does wonders for uneven, splotchy skin. If you OD'd (overdosed) on the sunbathing last Holy Week, hide the damage with a dollop of the cream on your face in the morning and at night.

Among all products in the same category, the Godiva whitening anti-perspirant and deodorant is my ultimate favorite. Very mild and quick-drying, it keeps me dry even during the warmest summer day.

L'Oreal Plenitude White Perfect range. The innovative people from cosmetic giant L'Oreal Paris have formulated products to repair many skin problems, working day and night to prevent sun damage and to remove dark spots and uneven patches. The range boasts of a powerful ingredient, melanin block, that helps decrease melanin production, the main culprit behind brown spots and dark skin.

With L'Oreal's exclusive Mexoryl SX for sun protection and a patented form of beta hydroxy acid for mild exfoliation working in synergy with melanin block, the White Perfect line is a force to reckon with as far as sun damage is concerned.

My personal star product from the White Perfect range is the Triple Whitening Spot Corrector, a cream I use to lighten post-zit scars and even nasty scratch marks (from extreme clumsiness) on my arms.

A close contender is L'Oreal's Instant Clear Wipe-Off Lotion that refreshes and literally "wakes up" my tired, stressed skin. Watch out for the L'Oreal Paris Body Expertise home spa range that carries a whitening treatment for the body.

Nivea Visage White Whitening Care. Another range that swears by the power of natural licorice extract, Nivea's Whitening Care also works day and night for optimal whitening results. The products under Nivea White also provide round-the-clock moisture for supple, dewy, even-toned skin.

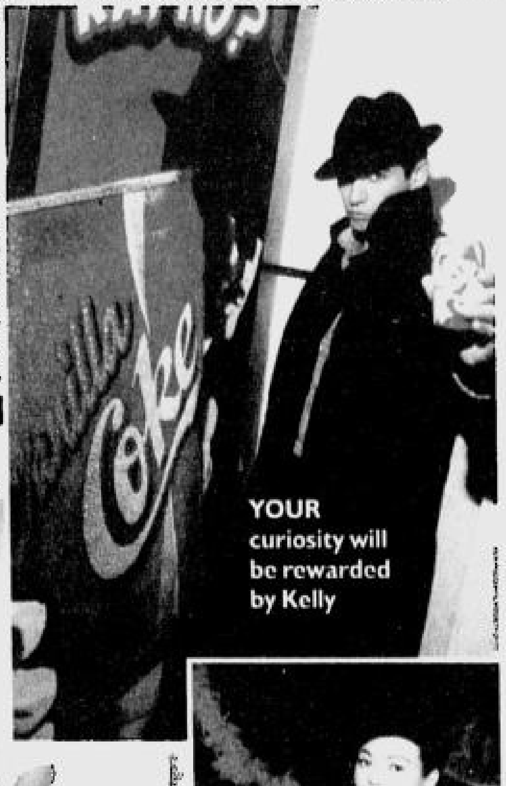
I use either the new whitening tinted moisturizer or the natural day moisturizer every morning for a velvety-smooth finish even without makeup. Bedtime calls for the luxurious natural night repair that helps skin recover from damage with a boost of vitamin E and jojoba oil.

Godiva; L'Oreal, Nivea available at PCX, other health and beauty stores, pharmacies and major department stores nationwide.

E-mail the author at pdi_vanityfare@hotmail.

GODIVA Licorice Whitening range

CHEERS, PARTYPHILES! Mystery and mayhem—an uproar in the house with friends, strangers and lovers. Indulge, indulge, indulge!


YOUR curiosity will be rewarded by Kelly

GANGSTA MAN. Patrick Reyno

MODEL'S MODEL. PMAP prexy Rissa Samson does Wiggy

BABS, BABY. Trisha Bermudez, soon to be star

For the bi-curious

Tim Yap

THE QUEEN. Wendy Puyat-Hotung plays a glam, young thing

THE CRITIC. Pepper Teehankee plays it smoothly

THE ACTOR. Miko Valenzuela goes vaudeville glam

HISS, pop. The sound of the can clicking, releasing its fizz and filling the air with sweet scents, like bubbles slowly creeping into your system, infused the room with mystery.

Curious?

Looking for variety to spice up our nocturnal routine, my experimental friends and I hooked up one night and indulged in an evening of raucous role-play, gastronomic orgy and non stop-guzzling—the Vanilla Coke Mystery "Epi-Curious" Dinner was one night filled with fashionable fun and fantasy-filled frolic!

Azzurro, now at the Sommerset Millennium Hotel (their G4 slot is now occupied by their newest franchise, Spargo's World BBQ opening this Friday) was dressed for mischievous mayhem. The **Bermudez** sisters **Sheila** (**Romero**, the lady behind it all), **Trisha** and **Bubbles** made sure the show was on the road by having master chef **Philip Golding** prepare an orgasmic feast. Silver candelabras and art deco touches filled the black-and-white Azzurro function room. Red and white feathers adorned the trail towards the mezzanine lobby where the characters gathered.

Kids, you can try this at home. Simply assign characters to your friends, grab a "mystery" pack (you can download it from the Net—under "murder mystery"), with a script and secret clue letters.

This is the rage in London boutique hotels, with party planners gathering 10 to 12 people. When you get to your venue, a detective announces that the host has been murdered, and one of you guys (the guests) is the culprit. The night proceeds trying to find out whodunnit.

Role-play

In our case, it was '20s London, with the cast composed of the jaded queen of London society, Tamara Fara-Bucktooth, played by jet setting **Wendy Puyat-Hotung**, Kylie-esque British popstar Mary Jane Faithless as portrayed by coffee-to-cocktails mistress **Celine Lopez**, who wore "real deal Pucci," vintage Chanel shades and a fur stole. Loud mouthed matinee idol Oliver Steed was **Miko Valenzuela.**

MTV VJ hunt finalist **Kelly Davis** wore his trench and became private detective Austin Mc Clue, complete with girls in pearls **Amy** and **Parrish** as flapper chicks.

Scene shaker **Erich Edralin** played crass political analyst Martin X, complete with a tele-evangelist costume, **Pepper Teehankee** wore a two-toned silver vest to play the obnoxious wine critic Brian Sewer, while **Bianca Araneta**, in Coco Chanel-inspired black garb and red, red lipstick, was glam-brat journalist and biographer Kitty Killer.

I played campy East End society photographer Terence Shrimp, while **Patrick Reyno** and **Trisha Bermudez** gave life to gangster boss "Champagne" Charlie Bunsun and his girlfriend, former nightclub hostess slash wannabe actress Babs Crayfish, complete with gold chains and beret.

Wiggy, the most famous model in the world was, who else, **Rissa Samson**, in a chic, chic white cotton dress and Jackie O shades.

The dress-up part was just half the fun. The other half was that the guests had to be really game. And game they were. We would argue, laugh out loud, play with our characters, insult each other, accuse each other—all in the name of curiosity, exciting our taste buds for play, and really getting into the moment.

In our case, curiosity got us our Coke—Vanilla Coke, that is.

Virgins and hard hats

Tonight, just before another long weekend sets us into another holiday frenzy, the gods and goddesses of the nocturnal scene hype up the heat.

All roads lead to Malate as Fidel goes the blue-collar route with a Hard Hat party—come in your roughest gear, ready for some rated F (Fidel) action as scene movers **Markus Schmidt** and **Richard Danao** set the summerscape with some solid seduction.

DJ Montano pays tribute to his ultimate icon as Acquario and Warner launches Madonna's American Life album at 9 p.m. Dance to her hits, come as your favorite Madge, see the banned video, prizes and CDs to be given away for Madonna madhunters!

Back in Greenbelt, Sari-Sari launches its "ME" Denims at Temple. It's time for self indulgence as jeans lovers of all shapes, sizes and colors gather at the Temple to worship the ladies who will march down the halls for Sari-Sari's latest below the belt item.

"It's the sexiest pair of jeans you'll find anywhere," promised **GP Reyes**, who requested guests to come in "denim and white."

Partyphiles, the best is yet to come this summer—so sit back, relax and enjoy it.

AMEN TO THAT. Erich Edralin razzle dazzles

BI/CURIOUS gals Parrish and Amy

THE POP STAR. Celine Lopez in real deal Pucci

SASSY SISTERS. Bubbles Bermudez and Sheila Romero, the ladies behind Azzurro Sommerset

YAPARAZZI does Brit camp

MASTER chef Philip Golding of Azzurro

COKE-Y CONFRONTATION. Accusations are hurled to Vanilla Coke buzzed guests to solve the mystery

A LIST. Partyphiles reading their script as the mystery dinner for the "curious" unfolds

AZZURRO AT SOMMERSET. Feathers, frolic, fantasy and fun

Summer fling springs back into the picture

Niño Mark Sablan & September Mabino

I AM 24, male, and I was recently sent to Boracay for work for four days. Day one in Bora saw me flirting with a girl, and the rest of my stay was spent cheating on my girlfriend of four years. Everything was cool when I got back to the city. I forgot the girl and was happy to be reunited with my real girlfriend.

Now the girl from Bora is pestering me through my cell phone. She doesn't know I have a girlfriend and that she was just a fling.

BORA BOY

Dear Bora Boy, who's probably raking in compliments for the golden tan, you are such a lying bastard who deserves all the persistent pestering you're getting—and more. But since I'm halo-ed, I'll try to have you in my heart as I deal with your dilemma.

Temptation, to begin with, is truly irresistible, so those who manage to ignore it (with or without the beads of perspiration) deserve the crown, sash and scepter. Unfortunately, you don't even belong to the top 10, thanks to your resistance (lack of, actually).

Dude, did you really resist in the first place? Because how and how much you resisted Temptation Island (if at all) says a lot about how you regard your city chick and your relationship.

Your supposed resistance aside, the point is that you cheated, so you better anticipate God's generous punishment especially for you.

Cheating has two schools of thought: 1) It's Okay As Long As I Don't Get Caught; and 2) I Won't Cheat So I Will Not Be Cheated On. Seems like you've never heard of the former, huh? Or maybe you have and are simply unafraid. You're more of the former, but you're not exactly the poster boy since one of these days, I swear your girlfriend will catch you with Hi-ro crumbs on your mouth, lipstick marks on your shirts' collar or... uhm... blush-on on your cheeks.

Your fault is not letting flirtatious female in on how you saw her as a person. If she knew where she stood, sat or lay, she wouldn't be bothering you now that you're caught up with the MTV VJ Hunt 2003, your hands hurting from over-clapping, thanks to Toni Taus.

Bora *bhabes* isn't the problem here. She was just sent by unseen forces to remind you that you're Lucifer in the making. I strongly suggest you ponder on Cheating School of Thought No. 2, okay? Also, stare at your girlfriend's pictures, especially the ones wherein she looks so pitiful, and have mercy on her. How can such a lovely, benevolent, beautiful and fragile soul like her deserve a pig like you? No offense to pigs.

There is nothing you can do now. Mwahahahaha! Be man enough to face whatever comes your way.

If somewhere in the veins and arteries of your heart, there is a spot that still loves city girl and sincerely screams for forgiveness, change your SIM card, run to Quiapo and pray that you won't cross paths with Bora *bhabes* ever again.

But if deep in your pants you crave for your Bora fling (and anticipate more), ready yourself for some excruciating pain. I hope it's a combination of unparalleled heartache, unbearable toothache, non-stop diarrhea, record-breaking depression and never-ending rejection. Oh, and the absence of a sex life, too. I hope you suffer soon.

MARK

Be a man and face what you've done. Your cheating episode is so wrong, you don't deserve an easy way out. Better prepare yourself to come clean to both girls, if only to begin to make up for your sin. I know you'd rather hear a good advice on how to shrug off subtly your Boracay fling partner but it's only fair to her to know what she meant to you, which wasn't much.

As for your girlfriend, if you can find a way to hide what has happened from her, then you're certainly one clever jerk. But, given your tendency to be complacent and forget the past so quickly, I am not counting on that.

SEP

E-mail the authors at markandsep@yahoo.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

CHEERS, PARTYPHILES! Mystery and mayhem—an uproar in the house with friends, strangers and lovers. Indulge, indulge, indulge!

YOUR curiosity will be rewarded by Kelly

For the bi-curious

Tim Yap

HISS, pop. The sound of the can clicking, releasing its fizz and filling the air with sweet scents, like bubbles slowly creeping into your system, infused the room with mystery.

Curious?

Looking for variety to spice up our nocturnal routine, my experimental friends and I hooked up one night and indulged in an evening of raucous role-play, gastronomic orgy and non stop-guzzling—the Vanilla Coke Mystery "Epi-Curious" Dinner was one night filled with fashionable fun and fantasy-filled frolic!

Azzurro, now at the Sommerset Millennium Hotel (their G4 slot is now occupied by their newest franchise, Spargo's World BBQ opening this Friday) was dressed for mischievous mayhem. The **Bermudez** sisters **Sheila (Romero,** the lady behind it all), **Trisha** and **Bubbles** made sure the show was on the road by having master chef **Philip Golding** prepare an orgasmic feast. Silver candelabras and art deco touches filled the black-and-white Azzurro function room. Red and white feathers adorned the trail towards the mezzanine lobby where the characters gathered.

Kids, you can try this at home. Simply assign characters to your friends, grab a "mystery" pack (you can download it from the Net—under "murder mystery"), with a script and secret clue letters.

This is the rage in London boutique hotels, with party planners gathering 10 to 12 people. When you get to your venue, a detective announces that the host has been murdered, and one of you guys (the guests) is the culprit. The night proceeds trying to find out whodunnit.

Role-play

In our case, it was '20s London, with the cast composed of the jaded queen of London society, Tamara Fara-Bucktooth, played by jet setting **Wendy Puyat-Hotung**, Kylie-esque British popstar Mary Jane Faithless as portrayed by coffee-to-cocktails mistress **Celine Lopez**, who wore "real deal Pucci," vintage Chanel shades and a fur stole. Loud mouthed matinee idol Oliver Steed was **Miko Valenzuela.**

MTV VJ hunt finalist **Kelly Davis** wore his trench and became private detective Austin Mc Clue, complete with girls in pearls **Amy** and **Parrish** as flapper chicks.

Scene shaker **Erich Edralin** played crass political analyst Martin X, complete with a tele-evangelist costume, **Pepper Teehankee** wore a two-toned silver vest to play the obnoxious wine critic Brian Sewer, while **Bianca Araneta**, in Coco Chanel-inspired black garb and red, red lipstick, was glam-brat journalist and biographer Kitty Killer.

I played campy East End society photographer Terence Shrimp, while **Patrick Reyno** and **Trisha Bermudez** gave life to gangster boss "Champagne" Charlie Bunsun and his girlfriend, former nightclub hostess slash wannabe actress Babs Crayfish, complete with gold chains and beret.

Wiggy, the most famous model in the world was, who else, **Rissa Samson**, in a chic, chic white cotton dress and Jackie O shades.

The dress-up part was just half the fun. The other half was that the guests had to be really game. And game they were. We would argue, laugh out loud, play with our characters, insult each other, accuse each other—all in the name of curiosity, exciting our taste buds for play, and really getting into the moment.

In our case, curiosity got us our Coke—Vanilla Coke, that is.

Virgins and hard hats

Tonight, just before another long weekend sets us into another holiday frenzy, the gods and goddesses of the nocturnal scene hype up the heat.

All roads lead to Malate as Fidel goes the blue-collar route with a Hard Hat party—come in your roughest gear, ready for some rated F (Fidel) action as scene movers Markus Schmidt and Richard Danao set the summerscape with some solid seduction.

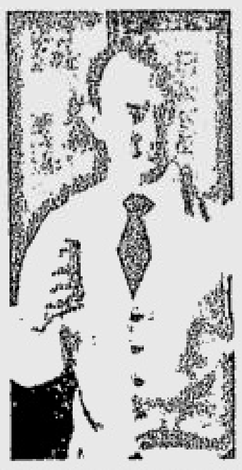
DJ Montano pays tribute to his ultimate icon as Acquario and Warner launches Madonna's American Life album at 9 p.m. Dance to her hits, come as your favorite Madge, see the banned video, prizes and CDs to be given away for Madonna madhunters!

Back in Greenbelt, Sari-Sari launches its "ME" Denims at Temple. It's time for self indulgence as jeans lovers of all shapes, sizes and colors gather at the Temple to worship the ladies who will march down the halls for Sari-Sari's latest below the belt item.

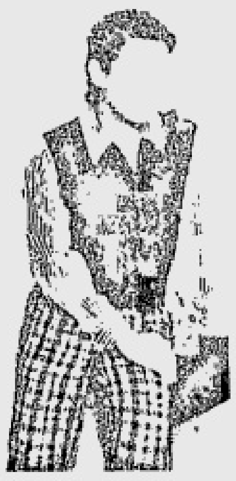
"It's the sexiest pair of jeans you'll find anywhere," promised GP Reyes, who requested guests to come in "denim and white."

Partyphiles, the best is yet to come this summer—so sit back, relax and enjoy it.

THE QUEEN. Wendy Puyat-Hotung plays a glam, young thing



THE CRITIC. Pepper Teehankee plays it smoothly



THE ACTOR. Miko Valenzuela goes vaudeville glam

GANGSTA MAN. Patrick Reyno

MODEL'S MODEL. PMAP prexy Rissa Samson does Wiggy

BABS, BABY. Trisha Bermudez, soon to be star

THE POP STAR. Celine Lopez in real deal Pucci

AMEN TO THAT. Erich Edralin razzle dazzles

BI/CURIOUS gals Parrish and Amy

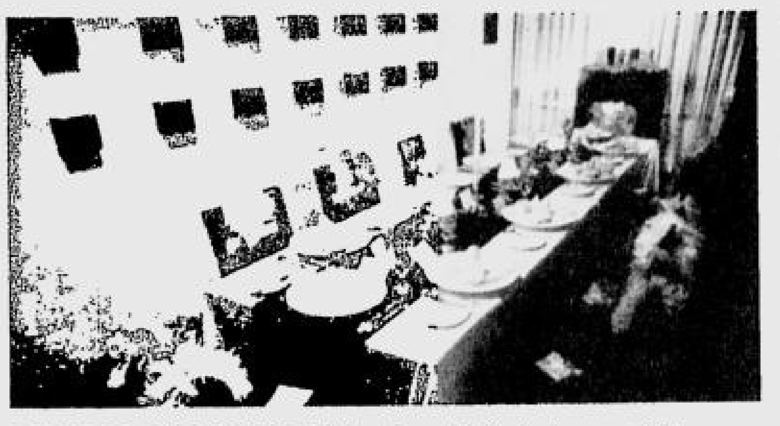
SASSY SISTERS. Bubbles Bermudez and Sheila Romero, the ladies behind Azzurro Sommerset

YAPARAZZI does Brit camp

MASTER chef Philip Golding of Azzurro

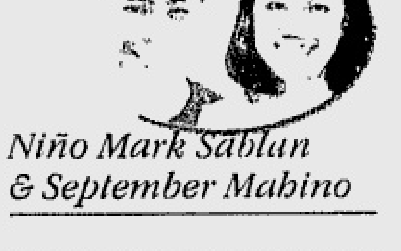
COKE-Y CONFRONTATION. Accusations are hurled to Vanilla Coke buzzed guests to solve the mystery

A LIST. Partyphiles reading their script as the mystery dinner for the "curious" unfolds



AZZURRO AT SOMMERSET. Feathers, frolic, fantasy and fun

Summer fling springs back into the picture



Niño Mark Sablan & September Mabino

I AM 24, male, and I was recently sent to Boracay for work for four days. Day one in Bora saw me flirting with a girl, and the rest of my stay was spent cheating on my girlfriend of four years. Everything was cool when I got back to the city. I forgot the girl and was happy to be reunited with my real girlfriend.

Now the girl from Bora is pestering me through my cell phone. She doesn't know I have a girlfriend and that she was just a fling.

BORA BOY

Dear Bora Boy, who's probably raking in compliments for the golden tan, you are such a lying bastard who deserves all the persistent pestering you're getting—and more. But since I'm halo-ed, I'll try to have you in my heart as I deal with your dilemma.

Temptation, to begin with, is truly irresistible, so those who manage to ignore it (with or without the beads of perspiration) deserve the crown, sash and scepter. Unfortunately, you don't even belong to the top 10, thanks to your resistance (lack of, actually).

Dude, did you really resist in the first place? Because how and how much you resisted Temptation Island (if at all) says a lot about how you regard your city chick and your relationship.

Your supposed resistance aside, the point is that you cheated, so you better anticipate God's generous punishment especially for you.

Cheating has two schools of thought: 1) It's Okay As Long As I Don't Get Caught; and 2) I Won't Cheat So I Will Not Be Cheated On. Seems like you've never heard of the former, huh? Or maybe you have and are simply unafraid. You're more of the former, but you're not exactly the poster boy since one of these days, I swear your girlfriend will catch you with Hi-ro crumbs on your mouth, lipstick marks on your shirts' collar or... uhm... blush-on on your cheeks.

Your fault is not letting flirtatious female in on how you saw her as a person. If she knew where she stood, sat or lay, she wouldn't be bothering you now that you're caught up with the MTV VJ Hunt 2003, your hands hurting from over-clapping, thanks to Toni Taus.

Bora *bhabes* isn't the problem here. She was just sent by unseen forces to remind you that you're Lucifer in the making. I strongly suggest you ponder on Cheating School of Thought No. 2, okay? Also, stare at your girlfriend's pictures, especially the ones wherein she looks so pitiful, and have mercy on her. How can such a lovely, benevolent, beautiful and fragile soul like her deserve a pig like you? No offense to pigs.

There is nothing you can do now. Mwahahahaha! Be man enough to face whatever comes your way.

If somewhere in the veins and arteries of your heart, there is a spot that still loves city girl and sincerely screams for forgiveness, change your SIM card, run to Quiapo and pray that you won't cross paths with Bora *bhabes* ever again.

But if deep in your pants you crave for your Bora fling (and anticipate more), ready yourself for some excruciating pain. I hope it's a combination of unparalleled heartache, unbearable toothache, non-stop diarrhea, record-breaking depression and never-ending rejection. Oh, and the absence of a sex life, too. I hope you suffer soon.

MARK

Be a man and face what you've done. Your cheating episode is so wrong, you don't deserve an easy way out. Better prepare yourself to come clean to both girls, if only to begin to make up for your sin. I know you'd rather hear a good advice on how to shrug off subtly your Boracay fling partner but it's only fair to her to know what she meant to you, which wasn't much.

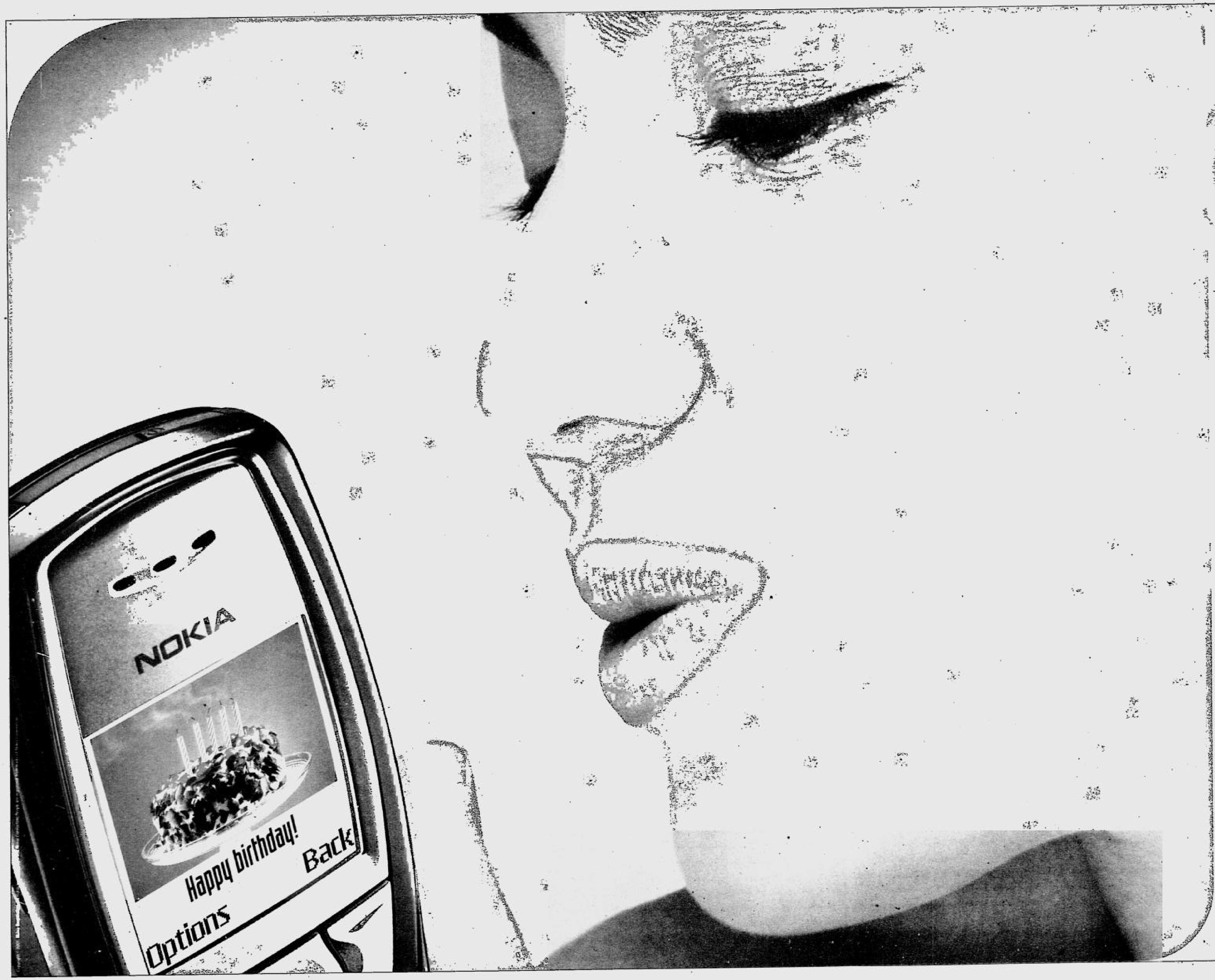
As for your girlfriend, if you can find a way to hide what has happened from her, then you're certainly one clever jerk. But, given your tendency to be complacent and forget the past so quickly, I am not counting on that.

SEP

E-mail the authors at markandsep@yahoo.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE



Nokia makes your messages come to life.

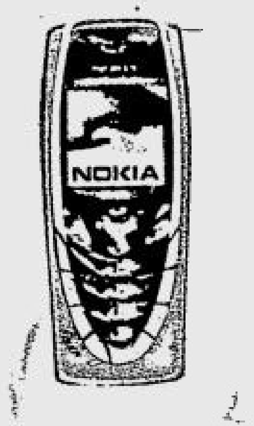
With Nokia Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS), your message becomes so vibrant, it will take your breath away. With MMS, you can put text and a full-color picture all in one message.

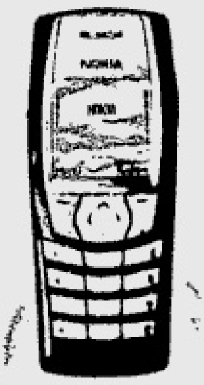
Nokia has the longest line of MMS-capable phones, like the Nokia 7210, Nokia 6610 and Nokia 6100. Attach the camera headset, take a picture and add it to your message. Now, you can send and receive messages in style.

For inquiries, email us at write_nokia@nokia.com or call Nokia Careline at 886-1234.

Camera Headset

Attach the camera headset to your Nokia phone.


NOKIA 7210


NOKIA 6610

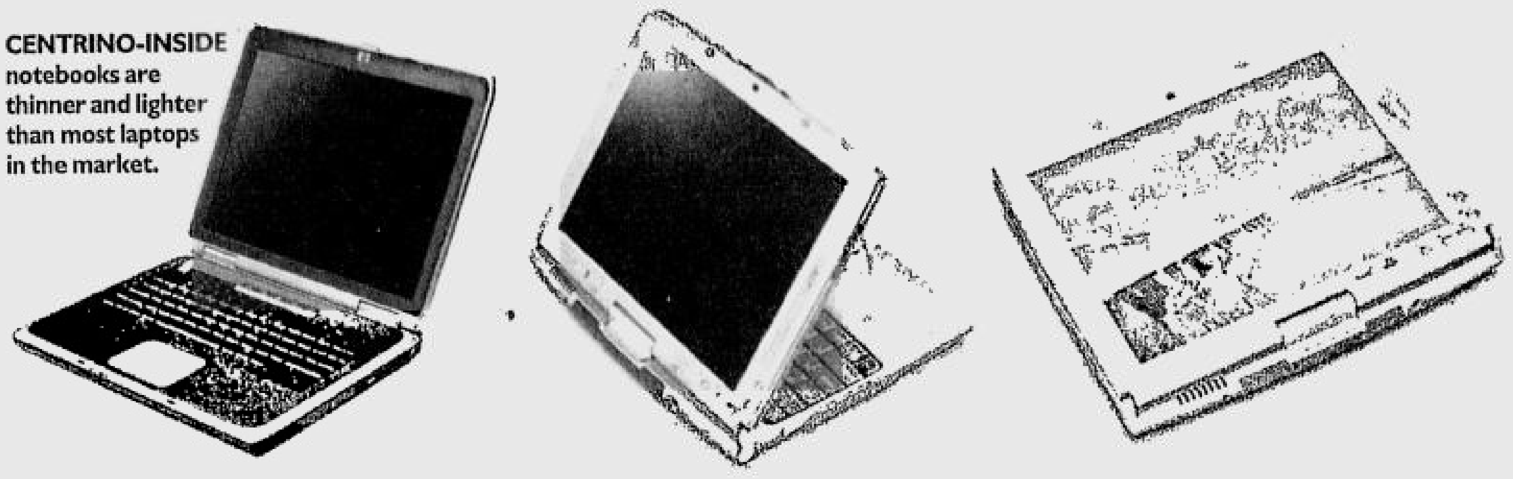
NOKIA 6100

2bU! to be young • to be you • to be you! • To be you!

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

WIRED WORLD gets set to unwire



CENTRINO-INSIDE notebooks are thinner and lighter than most laptops in the market.

With the latest in wireless technology, everyone will be more connected than ever before

By Jason Doplito
2bU! Correspondent

"WE are at a major tipping point," says Chak Wong, Intel Asia Pacific's director of product marketing and business management at the Singapore Expo last month. A tipping point is when a major breakthrough is made in technology, paving the way for a more exciting future. And for Mr. Wong, unwired computing or Internet mobility is the latest breakthrough that Intel has to offer.

Intel Centrino is the newest in mobile processor technology, making laptops a major resource not only for businessmen, but also for anyone who needs to be connected to the world anytime and anywhere.

For now, we connect to the Internet using cables and wires that we have to attach to landline phones, or wherever Internet access exists. This limits our movement as it is not possible for us to be on the move while surfing the Web at the same time.

With the Centrino, laptops can gain wireless access to the Internet, making it possible for anyone to send e-mail or search the Internet while one is at the mall or airport. This is made possible through the "Wi-Fi" (wireless fidelity) capability, which allows users to gain access to the Internet from wireless "hotspots."

Hot spots are areas such as offices, cafés, and hotels where there is Internet availability over wireless LAN (Local Area Network.)

Intel has put up the infrastructure for the application of the Centrino technology in the country. TeleAnalytics estimates that by 2006, there will be 27 million frequent public WLAN users worldwide.

But the new technology does not only offer mobility. It extends battery life and allows for thinner and lighter designs of laptops.

Intelligent

According to Lai Yit Loong, country manager of Intel Technology Asia in Singapore, Centrino has an intelligent power distribution, comparable to a motion sensor that turns lights on when you enter a room, and shuts them off when you exit. This means that it reduces power usage; the processor produces less heat. Laptop makers don't have to create extra space designed for processors to keep cool, paving the way for thinner and lighter PC notebooks (weighing just three pounds).

The processor's integrated wireless capability enables reduced interference between Intel PRO/Wireless Connection and certain Bluetooth devices, hastening connection to any Bluetooth-enabled mobile phone or PDA (personal digital assistant) for total mobile connectivity.

To illustrate the impact of the new technology, a video showed case studies of the product. It showed that the product allows access and updating of office databases from anywhere, video conferencing and easy connection.

For the future, Centrino provides the possibility of a remote-learning university, in which lectures can be made through TV broadcasts. The student will be able to view her class materials wherever she may be, and update her standing depending on what is posted at the school's website.

Later in the day, the media participated in the Intel Mobility Quest, an Amazing Race-type game that showcased the potential of laptops powered by the Centrino technology.

The quest was held around the major hotspots in Singapore. It started at the Singapore Expo, then went on to the Changi Airport and Suntec City Mall, before ending at the Conrad International Hotel.

Although Internet access gets cut off when

WIRED E4

WHAT'S ON at Robinsons
BIG MEN
Get ready for some big moves as the Big Men take centerstage at Robinsons Malls. Time to get a move on!
May 2 (Friday) [illegible]
Fountain Area, Robinsons Galleria
ROBINSONS Galleria

I dnt know why, I just LOVE underwear. They're essentials na pwedeng luxury. That's why I decided to go in2 the underwear business
monday
Was in the mall knina 2 buy sme stuf, and i almst trippd! buti nalng nobody saw - or at least, i think so. *yikes*
wednesday
When asked what she wore 2 sleep, Marilyn Monroe simply answerd 'Chanel no.5'. I prefer baby cologne.
friday
Joyce [illegible] more of [illegible] just [illegible]
SMART Buddy Pre-Paid
STAR TXT

With SMART StarTXT, getting updates on your favorite celebrities is just a text away.

Now, you can get in touch with the brightest stars through SMART StarTXT. Find out what they do behind the camera or how they go about their work as you get regular updates any time of the day.

Getting closer to them has never been this easy. Start StarTXT-ing today.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO JOYCE... JOYCE 326
Type **JOYCE** And send to **326**

To	Type and send to 326
Unsubscribe	JOYCE QUIT
Post a message	JOYCE <MESSAGE>
To get a list of available celebrities	STARTXT

Each text news received will be charged P2.50. A three-part message will be charged the same rate.

SMART Simply Amazing!

Also open to TALK 'N TEXT subscribers.

For inquiries, please call (02)888-1111 (GMA/LUZON), 1-800-1888-2220 (VISAYAS/MINDANAO), or *888 from your SMART GSM celfone.

In
A TECHNOLOGY-
FILIPINO

Chris proudly considers his scholastic triumphs as his greatest achievement. Graduating with top honors, he believes that the perseverance and determination he has shown towards studying, which he has always pursued with a singular passion, have finally paid off. For the most part, Chris has his parents to thank for that. "My parents always remind me to give my best in everything that I do," this young achiever, who seems to never back out of even the most daunting of challenges, admits.

Complementing his scholarly ways, Chris is also a leader of exemplary charisma who has just finished his term as the vice president of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila's Engineering Mathematics Society. In his spare time, Chris is quite the music and entertainment buff as he likes to surf the Internet to look for MP3s and episode guides of his favorite TV programs. Chris' competitive spirit is expressed not only in the classroom but also through sports as he devotes time to engage in table tennis and softball.

Now that Chris has graduated college, this GTAAA Overall Awardee plans to use the talents and sheer determination that have already brought him so much success, and apply these into helping build a nation worthy of the future generation.

CHRISTOPHER ROLAND B. BASM
Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng M

THE GTAAA

With over 200 awardees recognized to date, the Globe Telecom Academic Achievement Awards (GTAAA) has now been established as the country's only annual industry-academe linkage program. Marking its 8th year, the GTAAA presents itself as a credible social responsibility program of Globe Telecom which seeks to recognize the best graduating students nationwide in the College and High School levels.

Recently, the GTAAA has also become an award-winning program. Recognizing the GTAAA's promotion of a culture of intellectual excellence among the youth, the Public Relations Society of the Philippines has awarded the GTAAA an Anvil Award of Merit for Community Relations – Civic/Educational Organizations last February 2003.

The GTAAA's search to recognize College students who excel in the fields of Electronics & Communications Engineering (ECE) and Electrical Engineering (EE) and High School students who excel in the fields of Science and Math has taken the program all over the nation – from Luzon, to Visayas, to Mindanao.

Through the GTAAA, Globe Telecom aims to nurture in young Filipinos an interest in the technology fields like telecommunications, engineering and information technology. It further aims to encourage students to excel in these fields to build the Filipino nation.

In helping the pursuit of admirable achievements and fostering qualities of leadership among today's young people, the GTAAA hopes to provide a constant source of quality manpower that will run the industries of the country's future.

The GTAAA has also become a standard of excellence. With former GTAAA winners becoming a source of pride and inspiration in their schools, the GTAAA has encouraged students to excel in their studies. High school graduates have become interested to pursue studies in fields related to the technology sector thereby contributing to the growth of the Filipino nation. Likewise, college graduates have become inclined to look for jobs related to their field of expertise, giving them the opportunity to further the industry they belong to.

In its eight years of existence, the GTAAA's image as a valuable program has also been widely recognized within the government, private sector, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry and the academe.

GLOBE TELECOM

BOARD OF JUDGES

Engr. Nelson P. Beniabon
Advanced Technology Division OIC
Department of Science
and Technology

Dr. Amelia A. Biglete
NCR Director
Commission on Higher Education

Engr. Maria Elsie C. Esmer
Senior Education
Program Specialist
Department of Education

Engr. Henry T. Galingan
President & General Manager
Telecoms Infrastructure
Corporation of the Phils.

Engr. Philip A. Varilla
Supervising Communications
Development Officer
Department of Transportation
and Communications

Atty. Mabel P. Villarica-Mamba
Immediate Past Chairperson & CEO
National Youth Commission

Engr. Edgardo V. Cabarios
Common Carrier Authorization
Department Director
National Telecommunications
Commission
Chairman, 2003 GTAAA Board of Judges

John Andrew E. Bala
Xavier University
Ateneo de Cagaya
ECE

Julie Ann B. Dalisa
Ateneo de Davao Unive
ECE

Maria Janice S. Lec
University of St. La Sa
Bacolod
ECE

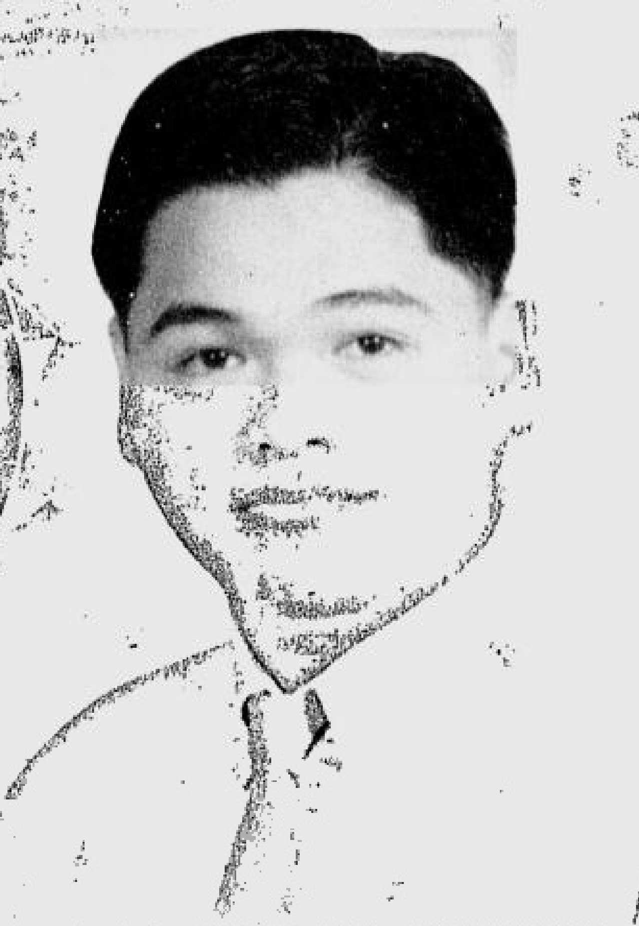
Joyreen G. Maced
MSU-Iligan Institute of Te
ECE

Paul Jason D. Ta
De La Salle Univers
ECE

The GTAAA recognizes the very best in academic achievement and student leadership. Now on its 8th year, Globe Telecom hopes that the program will continue to inspire and challenge Filipino youths to strive for excellence and become better individuals and effective role models for others to emulate. Through youth-centered programs like the GTAAA, Globe reaffirms its ongoing commitment to building a stronger nation.

Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II
Chairman
Globe Telecom

SPIRING
DRIVEN
YOUTH

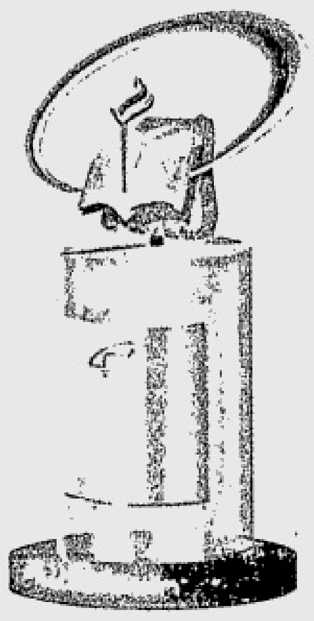


AYOR
aynila
ECE

GTAAA OVERALL AWARDEE

GTAAA

THE 8TH GLOBE TELECOM ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Technology drives today's world and the driving is fast, furious and intense. The turns are sharp, the stakes are high and always there are others close behind wanting to catch up.

In the driver's seat of technology is where we will find the Filipino youth. In our youth's hands lie the task of steering us into the future and, more importantly, in the right direction.

Youth driving technology. Technology driving the youth. That is the way it should be. Globe Telecom takes up the challenge of powering the youth with the GLOBE TELECOM ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (GTAAA).

COLLEGE LEVEL

ndra

Ronald D. Balinas
Adamson University
ECE

Eric A. Coma
University of
Southeastern Philippines
ECE

y
sity

Emmanuel J. Fuentes
Mindanao Polytechnic
State College
EE

Jonathan G. Ibera
Mapua Institute of Technology
ECE

ias
le-

Irish C. Ledesma
Central Philippine University
ECE

Leneth G. Libre
University of San Carlos-
Technological Center
ECE

a
hnology

Harold P. Mendoza
Saint Louis University
ECE

Genesis G. Tan
University of Santo Tomas
EE

ty

Noel T. Torres
Silliman University
EE

Ian R. Victorino
Don Bosco Technical College
ECE

Jred M. Villafranca
University of the Philippines-
Diliman
ECE

HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

Marlena Joy Barker
King's College of Isulan
Sultan Kudarat

Richardson D. Billones, Jr.
Makati Science High School
Makati City

Sheena Nova R. Binoya
Notre Dame of Kidapawan College
North Cotabato

Charlene Lesley T. Chan
Leyte Progressive High School
Tacloban City

Josine Marie C. Conti
Saint Bridget College
Batangas

Sheela Ann G. Datukon
Albert Einstein School
Maguindanao

Neil Anthony D. Gidlayan
University of Negros
Occidental-Recoletos
Bacolod City

Dianne C. Go
Colegio de las Hijas de Jesus
Iloilo City

Dianne Mina A. de Guzman
Our Lady of Perpetual Succor College
Marikina City

Ariane Mae A. Napiñas
Christ the King College
Calbayog City

Lou Angela D. Oliveros
Divine Word College-San Jose
Occidental Mindoro

Irish Jay Q. Pasamonte
Palawan National School
Palawan

Angelo Carlo E. Reyes
La Salle Green Hills
Mandaluyong City

Florante O. Robin
Tagbilaran City Science High School
Tagbilaran City

Maria Kristina B. Roderos
Cebu City National Science
High School
Cebu City

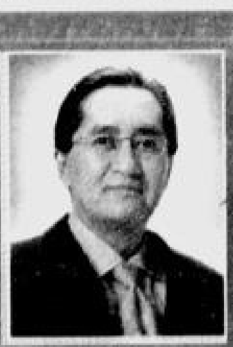
Leonideza P. Romano
Iligan City East High School
Lanao del Norte

Jun Carlo M. Sunglao
La Immaculada Concepcion School
Pasig City

John Anthony D. Tindoc
Silliman University High School
Dumaguete City

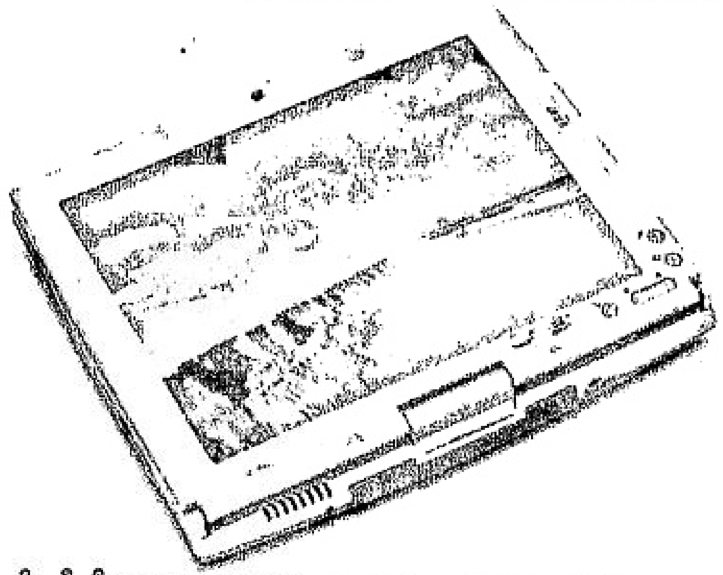
Marie Frances M. Tolentino
Leuteboro National High School
Oriental Mindoro

Dangell G. Villanueva
Cavite National Science High School
Cavite



The GTAAA recently received the Anvil Award of Merit from the Public Relations Society of the Philippines. As one of Globe Telecom's programs for recognizing outstanding student achievers, the GTAAA has had a positive impact among young Filipinos, and we at Globe Telecom are very proud to encourage the development of their potential.

Gerardo C. Ablaza, Jr.
President & CEO
Globe Telecom



WIRED WORLD gets set to unwire

From page E1

traveling through places where there are no hotspots, connection is nevertheless fast where WLAN is available.

The downloading of web pages is considerably faster than when one does it using the home PC since Centrino makes use of radio signals to hook up to the Internet instead of dial-up or cable networking.

And since the laptops are way lighter than their predecessors, one can hold them with one hand while typing with the other.

Filipinos may be a bit apprehensive with the new technology, especially since the price of "unwiring" through the use "Wi-Fi" Internet is not cheap. Wireless Internet Service Providers (WISP) may charge prices that are a bit steep.

But sooner or later, wireless surfing will be the norm, and we will all live in a world smaller than it already is today.

For more information about Centrino-inside notebooks, visit http://intel.com/home/notebooks

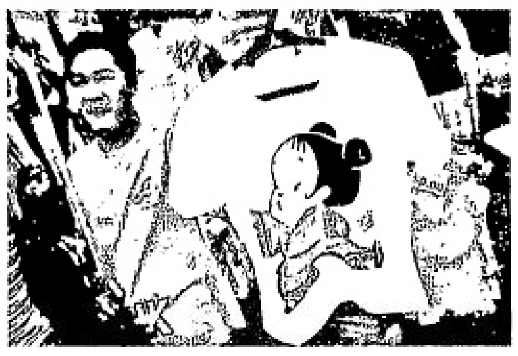
---

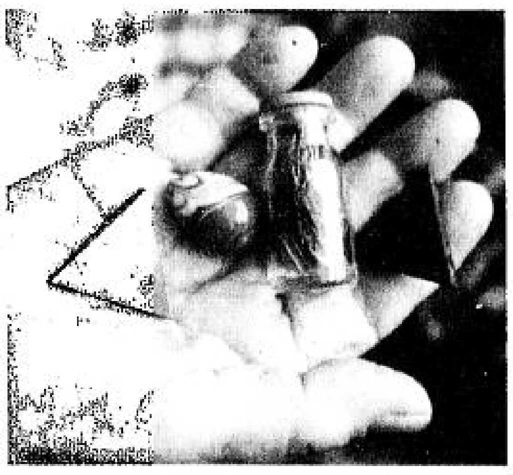
2BU! PROMO

And the winners are . . .

LAST week, we asked you to join us on our quest to Quiapo and offered you the chance to win clothes, accessories and good-luck charms. The response was overwhelming.

The 2bU! inbox was flooded with entries from readers from all over the Philippines. Needless to say, we sweated and argued our way to a decision.





These people emerged victorious:

Sixteen-year-old Julia Benitez, an incoming freshman at UP Diliman, says she needs all the help she can get to expand her school wardrobe. We're giving her the tops and the socks.

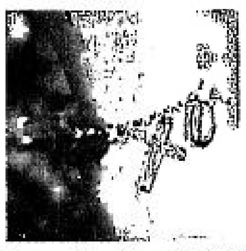
"I'm an incoming freshman at UP Diliman, and as you all know, casual *ang damit*. That's why I need all the help I can get be able to add some things to my wardrobe. I'm preparing myself for tutoring services so that I'll have money to buy clothes from Divisoria."

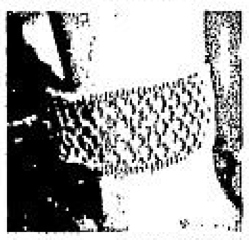
We want 21-year-old Joy Ruth B. Plopenio to prove her sister wrong. We're giving her the accessories package.

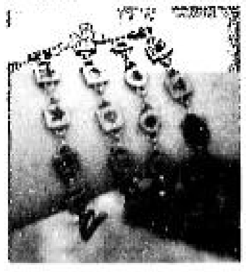
"I deserve those accessories because my sister used to tell me that I'm so plain and boring. I'd like to give life to my simple clothes by using accessories. It would be fun and a good experience to be adventurous and not just stick to what I have gotten used to. [I'm] trying to reinvent myself."

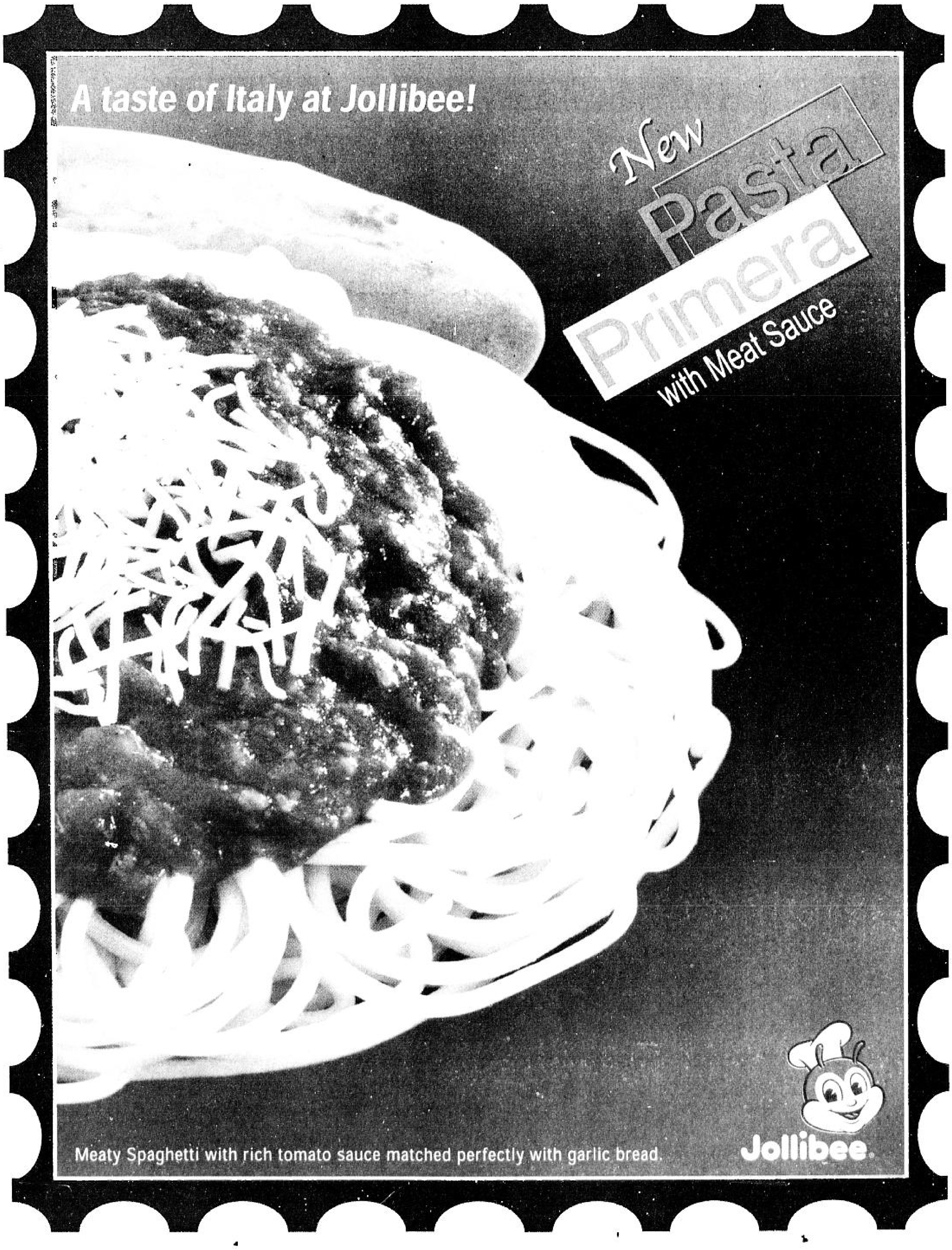
Twenty-year-old Danicar Mariano from the Ateneo de Manila flaunted her magic prowess by sending us two very interesting entries. She will receive the magic powers. This is the shorter entry. "The Philippines has always been an interesting place to live in because of its uncanny faith in fate and magic realism. The blind, the sick, the weary are miraculously healed by *albolaryos* whose powers we should never, sadly for us, discredit. Refusing to believe in the invisible is admitting to a lack of imagination. And the boring and unimaginative can never see God. There is really no contradiction between magic and Christianity in their fundamental core. They both teach faith in the union of the spiritual and corporeal, heralding the presence of "the spirit" in "the flesh."

Winners may claim their prizes on Mondays from 4 p.m. onward at the Philippine Daily Inquirer building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati. Please look for Pam or Jason. For inquiries, call 897-8808 on Mondays.








A taste of Italy at Jollibee!
New
Pasta
Primera
with Meat Sauce
Meaty Spaghetti with rich tomato sauce matched perfectly with garlic bread.
Jollibee

For feedback, text us at **(0919)880-33-54** or email us at **pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph**

LIFESTYLE

to be young • to be you • to be young • to be young • To be you!

CALL-CENTER work means better pay, a campy work environment and quicker route to the top for the fresh grad.

The call-center industry has become a vibrant job haven for new graduates

A new job is just a call away

By Jason Doplito
2bU! Correspondent

THIS summer, while most young people are gearing up for the beach, the rest of them will be gearing up for the the corporate world. After all, while the season means vacation for the lucky ones, for the rest it means embracing the real world, specifically the world of the job seeker. And given the hot weather, it is not exciting for one to be dressed in corporate attire and go in and out of the buildings on Ayala Avenue when one would rather be in swimwear and enjoy the sun on the beach.

Fortunately, the recent boom in information and communications technology sector has made things easier for fresh graduates. Job hunters would find the IT industry a breath of fresh air to the other industries that hire only applicants with previous working experiences. This is especially true of the call center industry, which has accepted new graduates.

Ambergris Solutions has enjoyed tremendous growth in the last three months since it started operations. Its employees have increased from the original 25 to 400.

Like most call centers, Ambergris serves

A NEW/ F2

PHILIPPINE ANTI-AGEING MEDICAL SOCIETY INC.

"A World of Beauty...from Within and Outside."
Scientific Lecture
May 24, 2003 • 1PM - 6PM
Megatrade Hall 2 SM Megamall

Oathtaking of Fellows
May 24, 2003
6PM - 11PM
EDSA Shangrila

Still accepting fellow members until May 08, 2003

For more info please contact
JOEL C. MENDEZ, M.D. PAAMSI President
Cell No.: 0917 • 8482675
Tel. No.: 840-2128 c/o Chong

Nag Wilma Tapalla Ka Na Ba?

We Are Opening New Classes
Scheds: MW, MWF, TTH, SAT, SUN / Morning, Afternoon, Evening

- Speech Dynamics
- Fluency & Mastery of English
- Practical Grammar
- Business Writing
- Power Talking Skills
- English for Foreigners
- Personality in Action
- Rapid Reading & Comprehension

KIDDIE ACADEMY
(3 TO 15 yrs. old)
Speech Arts, Theater Arts, English Fluency, Grammar Reading & Comprehension Character Bldg., Personality Dev.

- Glamour Ride / Finishing Course
- Modern Grammar
- Tagalog • TOEFL • TSE
- Private Tutoring-All Courses

Enroll in a Package - P 2,300 per course

WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY

LEGARDA, SAMPALOC
2600 Rizal Hall, Arellano University
736-7656
736-7657
736-7644

Since 1967

Greenhills
55 Annapolis St.,
c/o Sampaloc

www.wctacademe.com

happy birthday!

Gift giving made so much easier

In denominations of ₱500, ₱1,000 and ₱2,000

the Perfect Gift

We've got it all for you!

SM DEPARTMENT STORE

Available at the
SM Customer Service Center

QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA
ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • BICUTAN

SMART zed™
Choose what you want.
POW LOGO
POW GIRL
POW PIC
POW TONE
SMART Simply Amazing!

Get the hottest downloads from our weekly hit list.

Top 20 Logos

LOGO ANGHEL
LOGO NUDE2
LOGO JESUS
LOGO DRAGON7
LOGO SWEETHFART
LOGO SEXYEYES2
LOGO DRAGONBALL
LOGO KISSMOKO
LOGO 4EVER
LOGO ANIMEYES
LOGO POGIAKO
LOGO WINDGIRL
LOGO THORNS
LOGO SANDCASTLE
LOGO BESO
LOGO DOLFNS
LOGO NOMOREWAR
LOGO BFLYGIRL
LOGO ANGELSTAR
LOGO ASSASIN

Get the hottest logo automatically delivered to your cell phone weekly. Type POWLOGO and send to 288.

To know what's hot, send ***HOTLOGOS*** *to* ***288*** *to get weekly lists of zed's hottest and newest logos. Only P2.50 per message received.*

New Logos

LOGO PIECECAKE
LOGO ROACH
LOGO SEXYGIRL
LOGO SKUNK
LOGO STILLHERE
LOGO SUMRNA
LOGO SUMTRIP
LOGO SUN1
LOGO SURFSUP1
LOGO SWIM
LOGO TADPOLE
LOGO TOPDOWN
LOGO WAITING1
LOGO YACHT
LOGO AIM1
LOGO ARTIST
LOGO BUNGEE
LOGO CATPEACE
LOGO DAD
LOGO MOM1

Guys rule! Subscribe now and get the best of cool and macho logos every week.
Just send POWGUY to 288.
...and try out POW Gal! Get the hottest girl-related logos every week.
Just send POWGIRL to 288.

New Picture Messages

PIC LOTION
PIC MYCARROT
PIC PILLOW
PIC PLAPLA
PIC PUSA1
PIC SLOVE
PIC SPAR
PIC SUMCOOL
PIC SUMRHEAT
PIC SUMRNITE
PIC SWTDRMS
PIC TIGERFISH
PIC UNDERW
PIC UWATER
PIC 4UBABY
PIC BASKING
PIC BDRAGON
PIC BEACHCOUPLE
PIC BEARFLOW
PIC BEHAPI

Get the hottest picture message automatically delivered to your cell phone weekly. Type POWPIC and send to 288.

To know what's hot, send ***HOTPICS*** *to* ***288*** *to get weekly lists of zed's hottest and newest picture messages. Only P2.50 per message received.*

New Ringtones

All I Have
Jennifer Lopez
TONE ALLIHAVE

Money For Food
Barbie's Cradle
TONE MONEYFOR

Tabing Ilog
Barbie's Cradle
TONE TABING

Feel
Robbie Williams
TONE FEEL

Gossip Folks
Missy Elliot
TONE GOSSIP

How You Remind Me
Nickelback
TONE REMINDME

Soak Up The Sun
Sheryl Crow
TONE SOAKUP

Sway
Bic Runga
TONE SWAY

Kiss That Girl
Sheryl Crow
TONE KISSTHAT

Stillness Of Heart
Lenny Kravitz
TONE STILLNESS

Get the hottest tone automatically delivered to your cell phone weekly. Type POWTONE and send to 288.

Featured tone of the week is "American Life" by Madonna. Exclusively available via POWTONE.

To know what's hot, send ***HOTTONES*** *to* ***288*** *to get weekly lists of zed's hottest and newest ringtones. Only P2.50 per message received.*

Top 10 Ringtones

1. Dilemma
Nelly
TONE DILEMMA
2. The Real Slim Shady
Eminem
TONE SLIMSHADY
3. Bakit Papa
Sex Bomb
TONE BAKITPAPA
4. King And Queen Of Hearts
David Pomeranz
TONE KINGNQUEEN
5. Someday We'll Know
Mandy Moore
TONE WILKNOW
6. Forevermore
Side A Band
TONE 4EVERMORE
7. This I Promise You
N'Sync
TONE DISIPROMISE
8. Spiderman
Movie Theme
TONE SPIDERMAN
9. Ain't It Funny
Jennifer Lopez
TONE AINTITFUN
10. Build Me Up, Buttercup
Sound Alike
TONE BUTTERCUP

How to download a logo, ringtone, or picture message

1. Type in KEYWORD. Ex. LOGO SUMTRIP, PIC BEHAPI, or TONE SOAKUP
2. Send to 288
3. Save upon receiving logo, ringtone, or picture message.

To send a logo, ringtone, or picture message to a friend, type **<keyword> <cell phone number>** and send to 288.
Ex. To send a logo, LOGO SUMTRIP 09181234567.
To send a tone, TONE SOAKUP 09181234567.
To send a picture message, PIC BEHAPI 09181234567.

- ***To download all of these from your SMART Super SIM, simply go to the SMART Menu, select SMART zed and then select My Favorites. Just click on the service you wish to download. It's so easy!***
- *Logos, ringtones and picture messages are supported by selected Nokia handsets.* ***Also available to Talk 'N Text subscribers.*** *P15.00 per successful download.*
- *Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART hotline AT 888-1111, Text us at 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.*

POP QUIZ.

Join the **POP STAR GAME** and get a daily picture message of a celebrity and guess who it is!

To play:
1. Type PS ON
2. Send to 288.
3. Guess who?

* Earn points to become the top POP STAR whiz.
* Top players will be published in the Smart Zed website (www.smart.zed.com)
* P5.00/service delivery.
* P2.50/reply.

Images courtesy of Music Channel and Sony Music

Thousands more downloads and services at www.smart.zed.com

'Look do we have here'— A promising group of young thespians

By Walter Ang
2bU! Correspondent

NO one can hate man more than man himself," said the poster heralding a twinbill presentation by the Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA).

Despite the bleak and ominous tone of the poster, I announced to my friends, after watching the show at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) Huseng Batute Theater, "I haven't had this much fun watching a theater production in a very long time!"

Having seen too many plays and musicals that were too pretentious, too commercial and too unoriginal, the recital cum graduation of the theater majors of the country's only arts high school was definitely a breath of fresh air. The young students displayed a vibrant, earnest energy in the two comedies they presented. They had an obvious passion for the craft and art of theater.

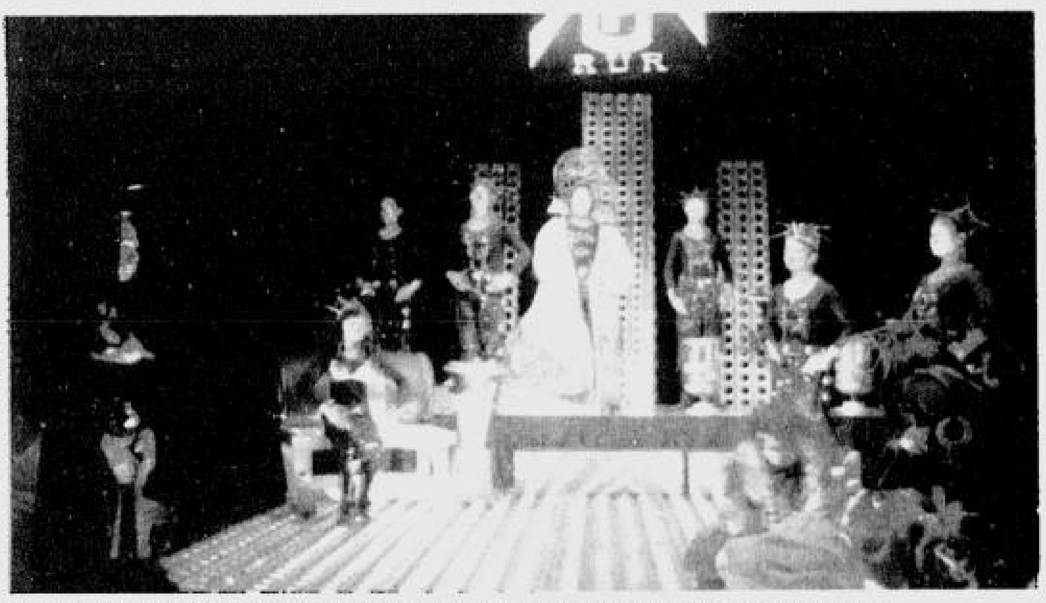
The matinee featured Czech writer Karel Capek's "RUR" (Rossum's Universal Robots). Graduating senior Nina Angela Rumbines shone in her portrayal of Helena Glory, the idealistic and vulnerable young woman on a humanitarian mission to liberate the robots in Rossum's Universal Robots factory. Rumbines was paired with fellow senior Jean Marc Cordero, who made a nasty yet funny Damon, the factory's general manager who falls in love with Glory. Other seniors in the cast included Mary Aimee Leduna (Alquist) and Joseph Keith Anicoche (Dr. Gall), whose German accent was spot on.

It was Damon who said, "No one can hate man more than man himself," when the handful of humans in the factory realized too late the repercussions of playing God.

The play ended on a positive note, but gave the audience a lot to think about in this day of genetic manipulation and robotic advancements.

HARRY Damon (JM Cordero) looks on as Helena Glory (Nina Rumbines) examines Robotess Sulla (Abner Delina) in "RUR."

THE SHIPWRECKED ladies on the island of Prospera in "Ang Unos" (Shakespeare's "The Tempest")


THE ROBOTS of Rossum's Universal Robots factory take over from the humans.

The recital cum graduation of theater majors of the country's only arts high school is a breath of fresh air

'First and almost'

One of the most hilarious parts of the play was the use of commonly mispronounced/misused English phrases in the Filipino translation of the late Rogelio Sicat. Teacher/overall director Herbert Go, who is also the associate artistic director of the CCP resident theater company Tanghalang Pilipino, said the use of the "phrases" was inspired by a line in the play, "Well, well, well indeed."

The cast used lines like, "Well, well, well! Look do we have here," or "So far, so good, so far," and "First and almost, it's not your problem anymore, it's my problem anymore!" The unexpected lines (which can be found online at www.jeepneygang.com/bola/jokes.html) kept the audience in stitches and eased the tension during heavy scenes, keeping the tone light and easy.

PROSPERA (Skyzx Labastilla) conjures a magical tempest.

Apart from acting, Rumbines also designed the set, while PHSA alumni Kristine Balmes did the costumes. Balmes' simple yet creative use of black and silver gave a funky and otherworldly look to the robots. The whole look of "RUR" was very textured and very, dare I say it, cute!

Island setting

While Rumbines gave "RUR" an industrial and electronic look with large metal sheets, she created an isolated island setting for the second play, William Shakespeare's "The Tempest," by using sand and bamboo. Balmes filled the characters' costumes with all colors of the rainbow. The candy colors and varied patterns added vigor to Rody Vera's sterling Filipino translation "Ang Unos."

Go constantly exposes audiences to Filipino translations as they show "the breadth and depth and versatility of the Filipino language as a medium of translation." Go and Vera have collaborated before as director and translator, respectively, in Dulaang Talyer's "Antony at Cleopatra" and Tanghalang Pilipino's "Rhythm Method."

In their latest effort, most male characters were changed into women roles, and Skyzx Shannah Labastilla was easily the standout with her earthy and eloquent portrayal of the magician Prospera. Other seniors in this tale of magic and enchantment included Alison Segarra (Miranda), the sultry Isabelle Antoinette Martinez (Bastiana) and Roselyn Loria (Antoinetta).

After Prospera's magic tempest brought a ship full of old enemies to her island, her spirit slave Ariela did the legwork. Senior Anna Rea Catamora brought the house down by portraying Ariela as a lithe, flexible creature that would do contortions with every line.

Audiences stood up to see what kind of pretzel shape Catamora had transformed into whenever she spoke. Her imitation of a frog was definitely one of the great scene stealers of the evening.

The play ended with old misunderstandings forgiven, friendships renewed, and new loves forged. As with most Shakespeare comedies, all's well that ends well.

The recital would not be the end for the high-school class, which had to juggle a regular academic workload with extensive arts training the past four years.

Senior Roselyn Loria said, "What's past is prologue. What's been done over the years is mere warm-up for the events ahead."

If the recital is any indication, this class is certainly all fired-up for the work ahead.

Tanghalang Pilipino offers acting and production/stage management workshops this summer. Call 832-1125.

A new job is just a call away

From page F1

US-based clients by offering customer-care solutions abroad. Work follows US time zones and so the bulk of its employees are busy during the night. Because of this, previous work experience doesn't count as much as attitude.

"We hire based on attitude and then we train for skill," says Mike Macapagal, the HR manager. "Cheerful disposition is needed because we receive irate calls every night. The person must also have the humility to accept those calls without taking them personally."

If the right person has the right attitude, it will be easy for him to acquire the technical know-how, the manager adds.

Light and jovial

The work environment in Ambergris is light and jovial. The call handlers smile a lot even if the clients on the other line don't see them. The computer desks are adorned with personal photos and cartoon characters. A group holds a costume theme every Friday.

The light mood is reflected in the interiors. Designer Isabel Asuncion-Berenguer created a fashionable and soothing workplace.

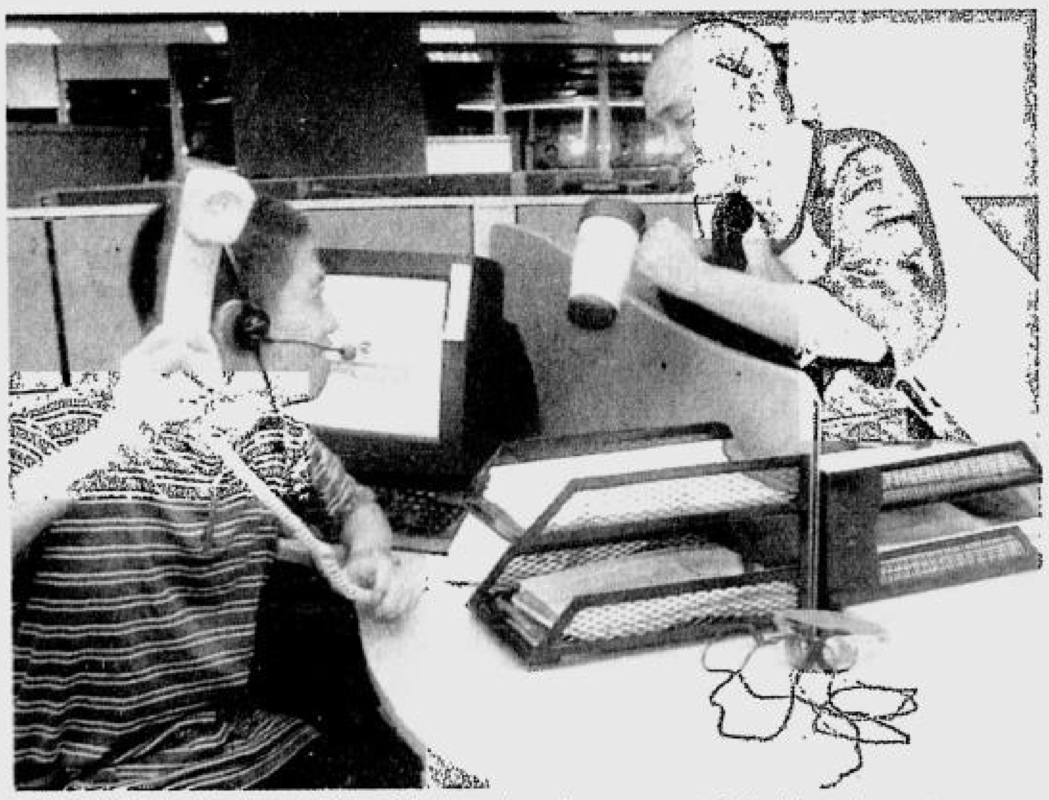
Since the call center's operations are conducted mostly at night, Ambergris has tried to foster a comfortable mood in its work, entertainment and sleeping areas.

Employee Hazel Bacabac enjoys the relaxed mood. "I can choose to nap for my mini-breaks because we have sleeping bunks here," she says. "It definitely feels like a second home."

Sleeping bunks here mean double-deckers complete with wall-to-wall carpeting, mattresses and a Zen-like fountain.

Others can hang out at the lounge and dining areas. And in these places, the ambiance gets even better.

"The PlayStation isn't working right now," Macapagal apologizes as we enter the entertainment center. "Probably from overheat."


BANTERING in-between calls and sleek workstations are part of the job package at Ambergris' Solutions.

The entertainment center has a television set, surrounded by a sofa with large throw pillows. There are a café and a bar at the other side.

Asuncion-Berenguer used the warm colors of orange and wood to create a cozy atmosphere.

Meanwhile, the dining area approximates a trendy and chic restaurant.

"We really made the facilities as appealing as it can be," Macapagal says. "The owners of the company know that call-center work is a very challenging job. We'd like to do the best that we can to make the jobs exciting and, at the same time, less difficult."

Call agents undergo trainings to educate them about the culture of the company and to equip them with skills on handling clients.

Agents have to be knowledgeable of US geography and proficient in American English.

Once they become call-center agents for Ambergris, career growth opportunities become rife, Macapagal says. "When I do the HR orientation program, I always say that they can build a career here. We have vacancies that occur very often wherein we promote internally."

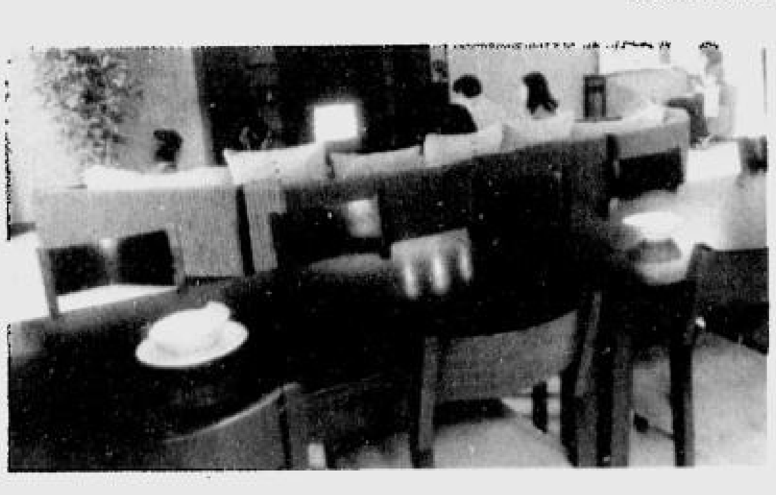
In fact, there have been agents who get promoted to supervisors even before they become regular exployees, Macapagal says.

THE EMPLOYEE lounge would pass as a chic restaurant for the smart set.

It would seem there's no stopping the growth of call centers in the Philippines. Timothy Lavin, chief operating officer of Ambergris, says the country has an excellent workforce.

In fact, the Philippines hopes to equal or even surpass India, which leads the global call-center market. And this summer, fresh graduates can make that possible.

Visit www.ambergrissolutions.com or call 638-9440 or +(0917) 514-3940 for more details.


THE WORK environment, as designed by Isabel Berenguer Asuncion was calibrated to be an added benefit for the workers.

Smashing Zwans and good ol' country Miller

By Maui Reyes
2bU! Correspondent

Mary Star of the Sea
Zwan
Warner Music

Baby, I'm the greatest thing you've got / I've taken care of everything / I've even gone and changed all the locks / Baby, let's rock / Let's rock—"Baby, Let's Rock"

REVIEWS

TO START off, don't see the album as "a product of that guy from Smashing Pumpkins." While most people pick up the record and think of it as "Billy Corgan's new band," it's more like an extension of himself that has been cut off but now given a chance to grow.

Just look at the credits—he has taken up the name "Billy Burke" as guitarist and vocalist of the band.

And speaking of the band, we're talking big names backing up that sacred cow: Pumpkins drummer Jimmy Chamberlin, Slint's David Pajo on guitars, Skunk's Matt Sweeney on guitars and A Perfect Circle's Paz Lenchantin on bass. They back Corgan—oh sorry—Burke's—nasal declarations of faith and love.

"Mary Star of the Sea" contains 14 tracks, all composed by Corgan. You're immediately drawn by the first few guitar notes and drum beats in "Lyric" before hearing Corgan coo, "Here comes my faith / to carry me on."

The next few tracks are not disappointing, either—the shift from each song isn't like a nauseating roller-coaster ride. The second track, "Settle Down," opens with Lenchantin's mesmerizing bass lines. "El Sol" exudes a light, breezy mood, and "Endless Summer" almost paints a picture of that perfect summer getaway, complete with the afternoon sun's reflection under the shade.

"Baby Let's Rock" is an alternative-music ballad, and the ender, "Come With Me," couldn't have been better produced what with its infectious beat and harmonica.

The writing is still very much Corgan... dripping with so much honesty that he always seems to write ahead of his time, only now focusing on other things.

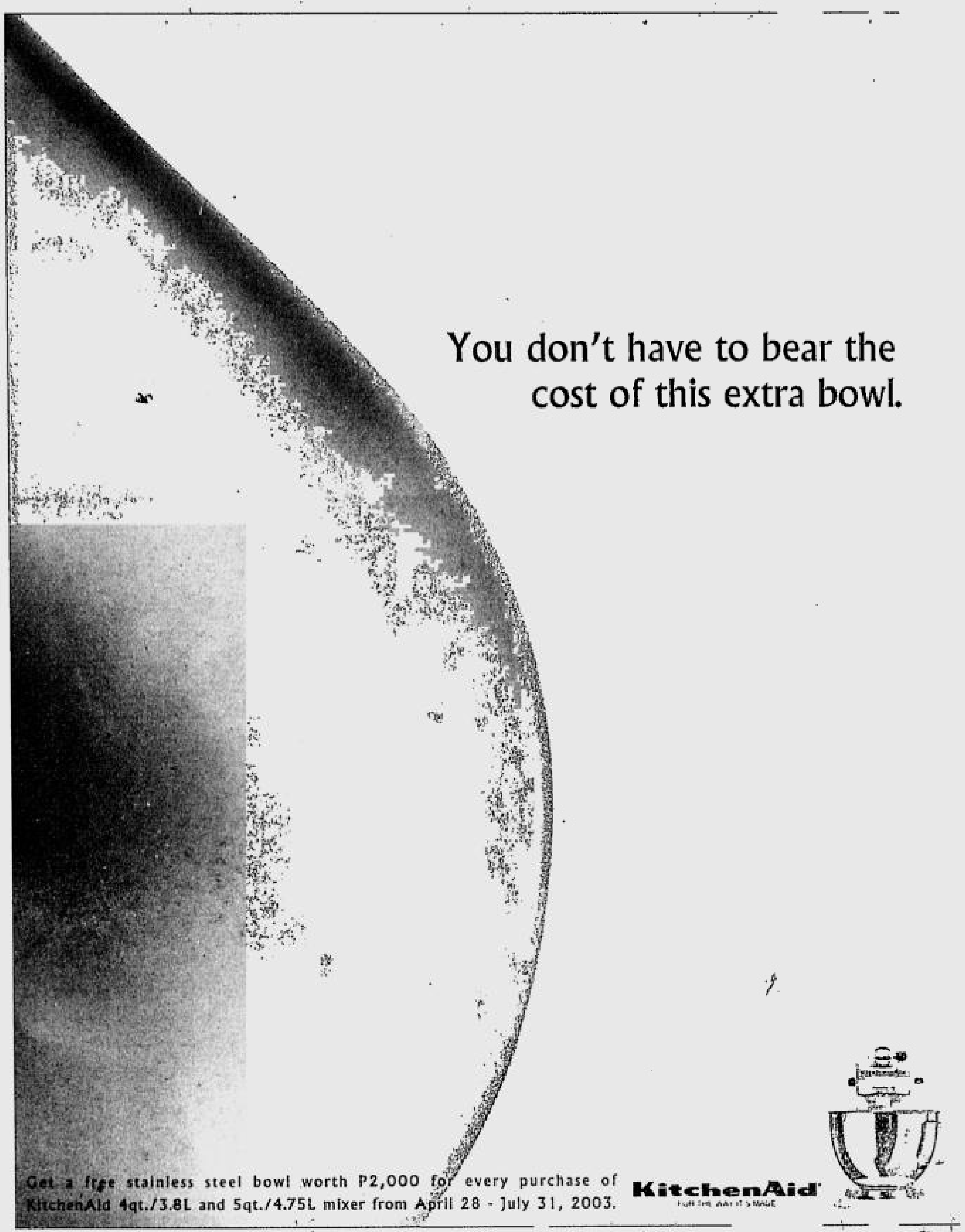
And that's one difference between Zwan and the Pumpkins. While Pumpkins gave its teen fans anthems for angst, Zwan tends to focus more on faith and/or love—with the same undeniable passion in those screechy screams and willowy whispers.

And even though there are still a few self-indulgent lines in some songs, including the 14-minute track, "Jesus, I / Mary of the Sea,"

SMASHING/ F4

RHETT MILLER
THE INSTIGATOR

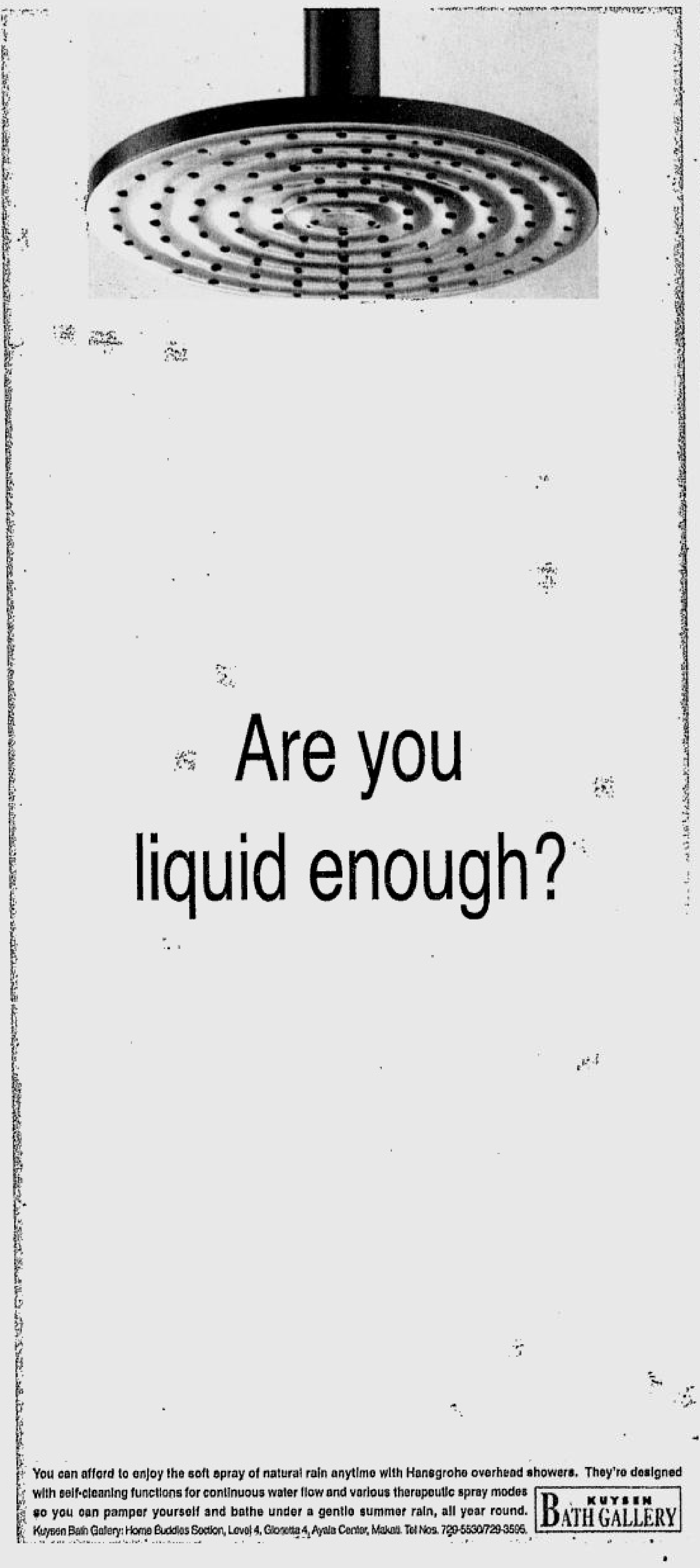
Billy Corgan has a new band and a new name while Rhett Miller provides an alternative feel to traditional country music


You don't have to bear the cost of this extra bowl.

Get a free stainless steel bowl worth P2,000 for every purchase of KitchenAid 4qt./3.8L and 5qt./4.75L mixer from April 28 - July 31, 2003.

KitchenAid
FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE

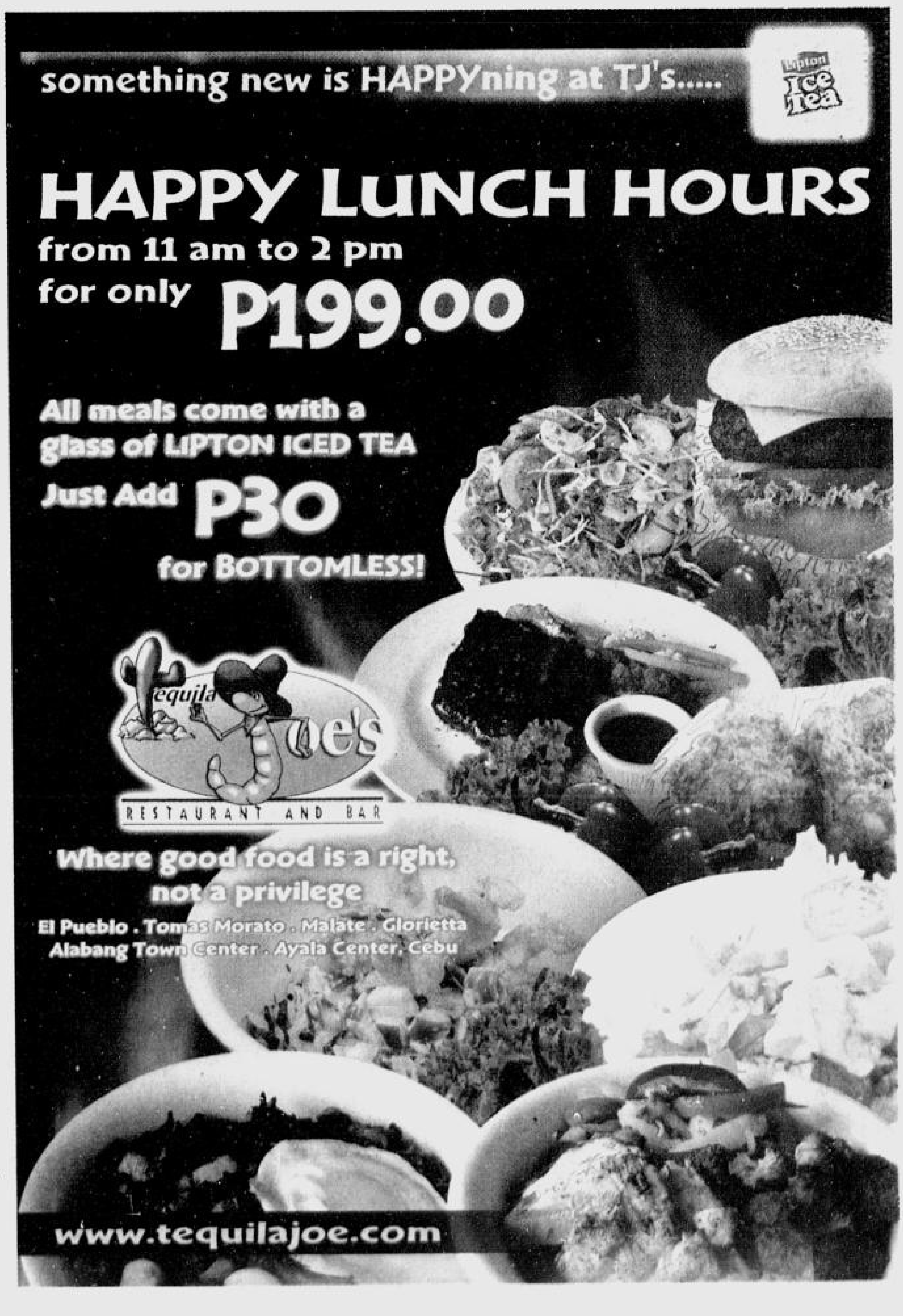
KitchenAid is distributed by FOCUS GLOBAL INC. [illegible]


Are you liquid enough?

You can afford to enjoy the soft spray of natural rain anytime with Hansgrohe overhead showers. They're designed with self-cleaning functions for continuous water flow and various therapeutic spray modes so you can pamper yourself and bathe under a gentle summer rain, all year round.

Kuysen Bath Gallery: Home Buddies Section, Level 4, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati. Tel Nos. 729-5530/729-3595.

KUYSEN BATH GALLERY


something new is HAPPYning at TJ's.....

Lipton Ice Tea

HAPPY LUNCH HOURS
from 11 am to 2 pm
for only P199.00

All meals come with a glass of LIPTON ICED TEA
Just Add P30 for BOTTOMLESS!

Tequila Joe's
RESTAURANT AND BAR

Where good food is a right, not a privilege

El Pueblo . Tomas Morato . Malate . Glorietta
Alabang Town Center . Ayala Center, Cebu

www.tequilajoe.com

Smashing Zwans and good ol' country Miller

From page F3

where Burke gets to do his little prayer spiel (you've got to love the guitar interlude, though), its lines like, "I believe, I believe… God and Heaven are my own," that prove that, yes, Toto, we're not in Kansas anymore.

Corgan has received much flak for retiring one of the most influential bands of the '90s. And while many people were sure he'd put up another band after the Smashing Pumpkins, most of them still don't think his efforts would pay off as well as his first band.

But there's no denying that Corgan has talent, and he'll carry that wherever he goes.

Besides, who's complaining? You've got a rock icon backed up by four great and talented musicians.

As he says on "Settle Down": "Whatever I can do / I will / Because I'm good at that."

The Instigator
Rhett Miller
Warner Music

If you're looking to buy this album expecting heart-wrenching songs similar to Miller's first single, "Come Around" (yes, the title isn't "Am I Gonna Be Lonely?"), as if looking for a John Mayer/Ryan Adams clone, better stick to downloading that one song from the Net, because the rest of the album (save for the track "Nervous Heart") doesn't chuck out songs about wonderland bodies.

If, however, you're looking for great, raw ditties about love, love, love, then this is worth your money.

To start off, Miller, former frontman of the Texan band The Old 97's, is a good songwriter, and it's obvious in the lyrics. "The Instigator" touches on love, admiration, pain, and loving from afar (think about it—they're pretty much the same thing). The way he presents love in each song with that alternative-country twinge makes this a fun, melodious and catchy album.

But the album explores more of Miller's pop side. Put it this way: if Miller is confused between doing pop and the alternative-country thing, he ought to stay schizophrenic.

Most people would argue that Miller's songs lack the honesty that he had back when he was doing songs for The Old 97's. Could a man who has just been married write songs that question if he will be lonely for the rest of his life? Who cares? It's music that many can relate to, with lines like "I want to live/ I want to see tomorrow/ So I can see you tomorrow" ("I Want to Live"), and "You've got terrible vision if you don't see/ that I'm in love with you and how that means everything" ("Terrible Vision") that make people keep this album on "repeat" in their players.

From the country-inspired track "The El" to the bittersweet goo in "Your Nervous Heart," Miller has mastered the formula to getting geeky, mushy lyrics to sound cool and poetic.

How can you lose with a guy who can put in stuff like "Two of us in a double-feature / I'm a rock and roller, she's a science teacher… I'm in love with a four-eyed girl" ("Four-Eyed Girl"); and "I try to make your world a better place/ I'd smother you in kisses/ I'd give you outer space/ But you're terrified and it's tearing me apart/ Can I kiss your furrowed brow and calm your nervous heart"?

And besides, everyone loves an uplifting love song or two. Even more if it's about unrequited love and failed relationships. As Miller sings, "This is What I Do," "I'm gonna sing this song forever/ About a girl that I once knew/ And how she is always leaving/ This is what I do."

DISCOVER GOLD
FUNDADOR GOLD RESERVE
BRANDY DE JEREZ
SOLERA RESERVA
Pedro Domecq
CELEBRATE WITH FUNDADOR GOLD RESERVE. IT IS UNIQUELY BLENDED WITH BRANDIES FROM THE DOMECQ FAMILY'S PERSONAL RESERVES, AND AGED LONGER FOR EXTRA SMOOTHNESS. WITH FUNDADOR GOLD RESERVE, EXPECT EVERY OCCASION TO BE TRULY GOLDEN.
SPECIALLY-AGED DOMECQ BRANDY.
New from Fundador
Drink Moderately

A cut above the rest

Throughout the course of history, man has been obsessed with the quest for perfection. Man's struggle to attain excellence is chronicled in many volumes through various means. One such chronicle for the quest for perfection is contained in the ongoing saga we call the modern Olympic Games. The very first modern Olympic Games were held in April 1896 in Athens, Greece. The event, though not well-publicized, drew tremendous support from people around the world. It became so successful that it has been held every four years since, with many champions rising to the occasion and establishing themselves as cuts above the rest in the process.

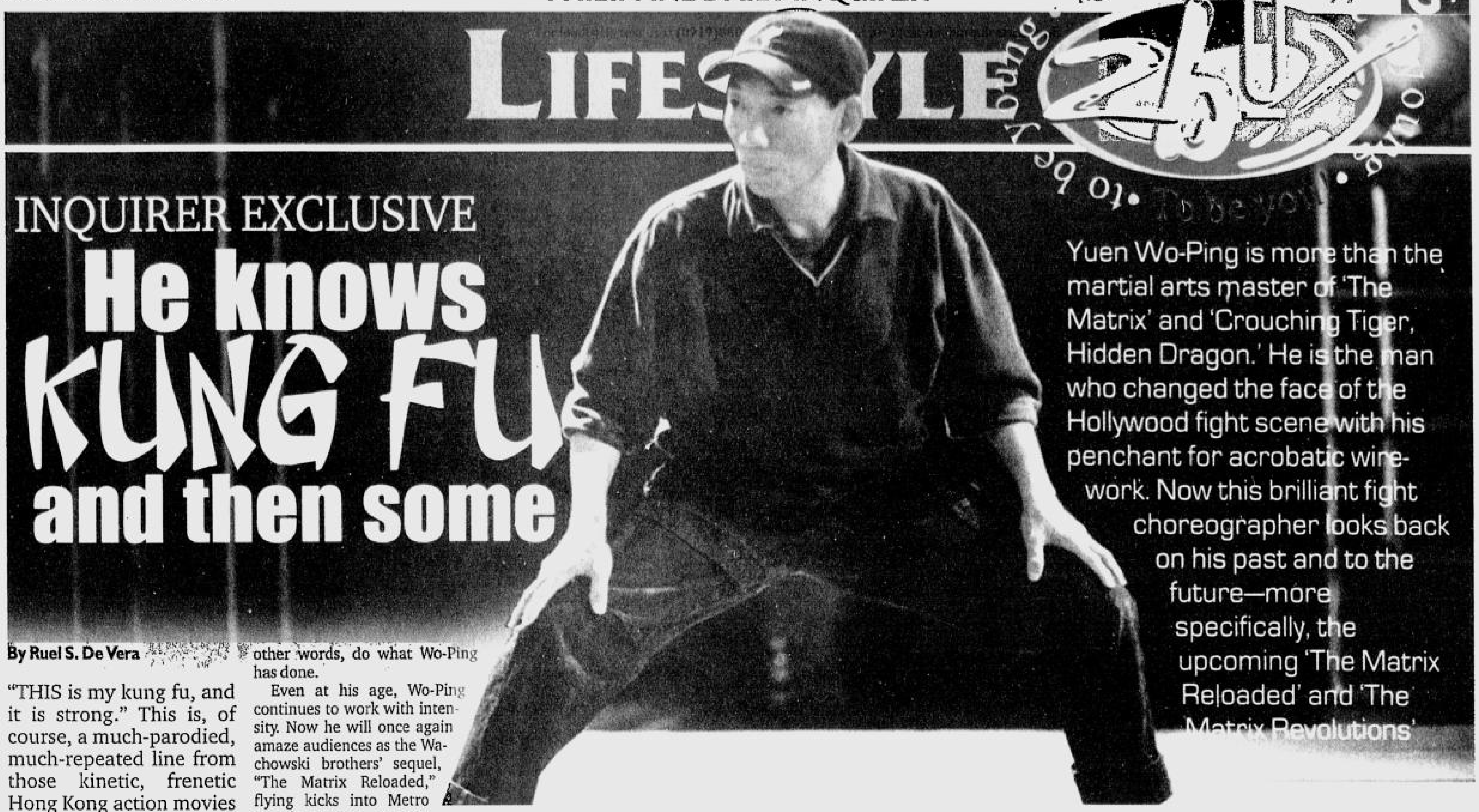
Such displays of above-average skills continue to draw the world's interest to this day. While preparations are conducted endlessly in anticipation of each and every Olympic Game, other venues to display the continuous quest for human perfection are held almost daily. Thus, stories of strength, courage and determination abound – as do heroes who've established themselves as icons in their chosen fields of sports, Olympic or otherwise. If the names Muhammad Ali, Mark Spitz, Tiger Woods and the like sound familiar to you, then you know what we speak of. These people have truly become cuts above the rest, as they've managed to set standards upon which everyone else who indulges in their sport are measured. Perfection indeed, is equated with those who know how to bring home the gold.

Such standards of perfection are ascribed to items of value as well. In the fine art of brandy-making, for example, a single name stands high above the rest as it has set the standard upon which other brandies are measured. That name is Fundador.

Fundador, the number one imported spirit in the Philippines, has not only set the standard for brandies, it has earned its own gold as well – in the new **Fundador Gold Reserve**. A Solera Reserva brandy, it is distilled from the finest Spanish grapes, aged longer and carefully blended with brandies from the personal reserves of the Domecq family in Jerez, Spain. Fundador Gold Reserve is, without a doubt, a cut above the rest with its rich amber and gold color, balanced and clean scent, and smooth, warm, lingering flavor.

Fundador Gold Reserve is the brandy made for special occasions and for special people. After all, for the discerning brandy drinker, nothing less than perfection is permissible. And as perfection is often measured in gold, **Fundador Gold Reserve** fits the stringent requirements of those who know how to bring home the gold – they who are truly a cut above the rest.

advtl


LIFESTYLE
to be young • to be you • to be young • to be you

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

He knows KUNG FU and then some

Yuen Wo-Ping is more than the martial arts master of 'The Matrix' and 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.' He is the man who changed the face of the Hollywood fight scene with his penchant for acrobatic wire-work. Now this brilliant fight choreographer looks back on his past and to the future—more specifically, the upcoming 'The Matrix Reloaded' and 'The Matrix Revolutions'

By Ruel S. De Vera

"THIS is my kung fu, and it is strong." This is, of course, a much-parodied, much-repeated line from those kinetic, frenetic Hong Kong action movies where anything is a weapon and anywhere is a battlefield.

What turned the high-flying antics, the product of a sublime communion of martial arts, wire-work and special effects, into something more than a regional delicacy can be traced to two specific movies.

The Wachowski brothers turned action movies on their heads with the blockbuster-and bullet-timing "The Matrix" while Ang Lee poured poetry into swordfights, earning them Oscar glory with "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." Since then, almost every fight scene churned out by Hollywood bears more than a passing resemblance to those two movies.

That literally makes Yuen Wo-Ping the man who single-handedly changed the fight scene in both East and West. A formidable presence in the Far East long before his Hollywood breakout, he was born in 1945, the son of Yuen Siu-tin, Hong Kong's first martial arts director and more famously known as the real Drunken Master. He and his brothers naturally followed the same path as their influential father, enrolling in the Yu Jim Yuen Peking Opera School, which Jackie Chan and other Far East stars also attended.

Wo-Ping then made the jump into films, choreographing innovative and stunning fight scenes and directing box office hits. In the late 1970s, he was instrumental in transforming Chan into a worldwide martial arts phenomenon. Aside from Chan, Wo Ping was also crucial in catapulting Donnie Yen, Michelle Yeoh and Jet Li to action stardom. He has worked on literally dozens of Hong Kong martial arts movies, including such seminal hits as "Snake in the Eagle's Shadow," the aforementioned "Drunken Master," "Once Upon a Time in China II" and "Black Mask".

Already a venerable master in Hong Kong, Wo-Ping made a splash in Hollywood when he trained Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Laurence Fishburne and the other American actors in "The Matrix." Whoa!

Then, Wo Ping choreographed the balletic battles between Chow Yun Fat and Zhang Ziyi in Ang's "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." After the critical and commercial knockout delivered by those movies, wire-works, acrobatic martial arts and special effects have become de rigueur, with everyone wanting to make the next "Matrix" or "Tiger." In other words, do what Wo-Ping has done.

Even at his age, Wo-Ping continues to work with intensity. Now he will once again amaze audiences as the Wachowski brothers' sequel, "The Matrix Reloaded," flying kicks into Metro Manila screens on May 16. In this exclusive e-mail interview with the INQUIRER, master Yuen Wo-Ping reflects on the road that led to "The Matrix Reloaded" and the trilogy's finale, "The Matrix Revolutions," due out in November.

How would you characterize your first experience working on a Hollywood film production?

"The Matrix" was the first film I did in Hollywood. The first time I went to Hollywood, it wasn't really difficult. I would discuss with the director what he wanted from the action and how he wanted the action to work with the special effects. The directors didn't actually give me a hard time and they gave me a lot of creative freedom. They were very supportive.

How did you start your career as a martial arts choreographer? What influenced you to pursue the film business?

That was a very, very long time ago—almost 30 years ago. The film was called "Mad Killer" (1971) and was directed by Ng See-yuen. I was just following in my father's footsteps. My father started teaching (my brothers and me) kung fu when we were still very young. My father was a martial arts director and he was the one who got us into the business. We started out as stuntmen.

How do you think "The Matrix" changed the look of Hollywood action movies?

After "The Matrix," quite a few Hollywood action films starting looking for Hong Kong action directors to design their action. I think "The Matrix" influenced it a lot. It started a trend toward the use of Hong Kong action styles in Hollywood movies.

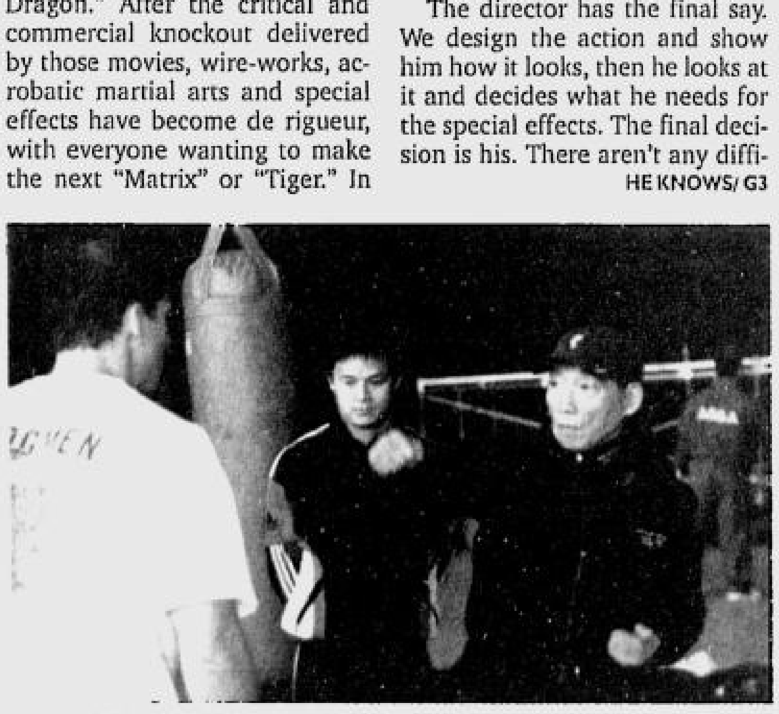
How did you train the actors? What types of people did you hire for your training team?

My team was chosen for the diversity of their specialties. The ones who are good with wires will train the actors on wire-work, those who are skilled in kung fu will train them in kung fu, and those who are good with weapons will teach the actors that.

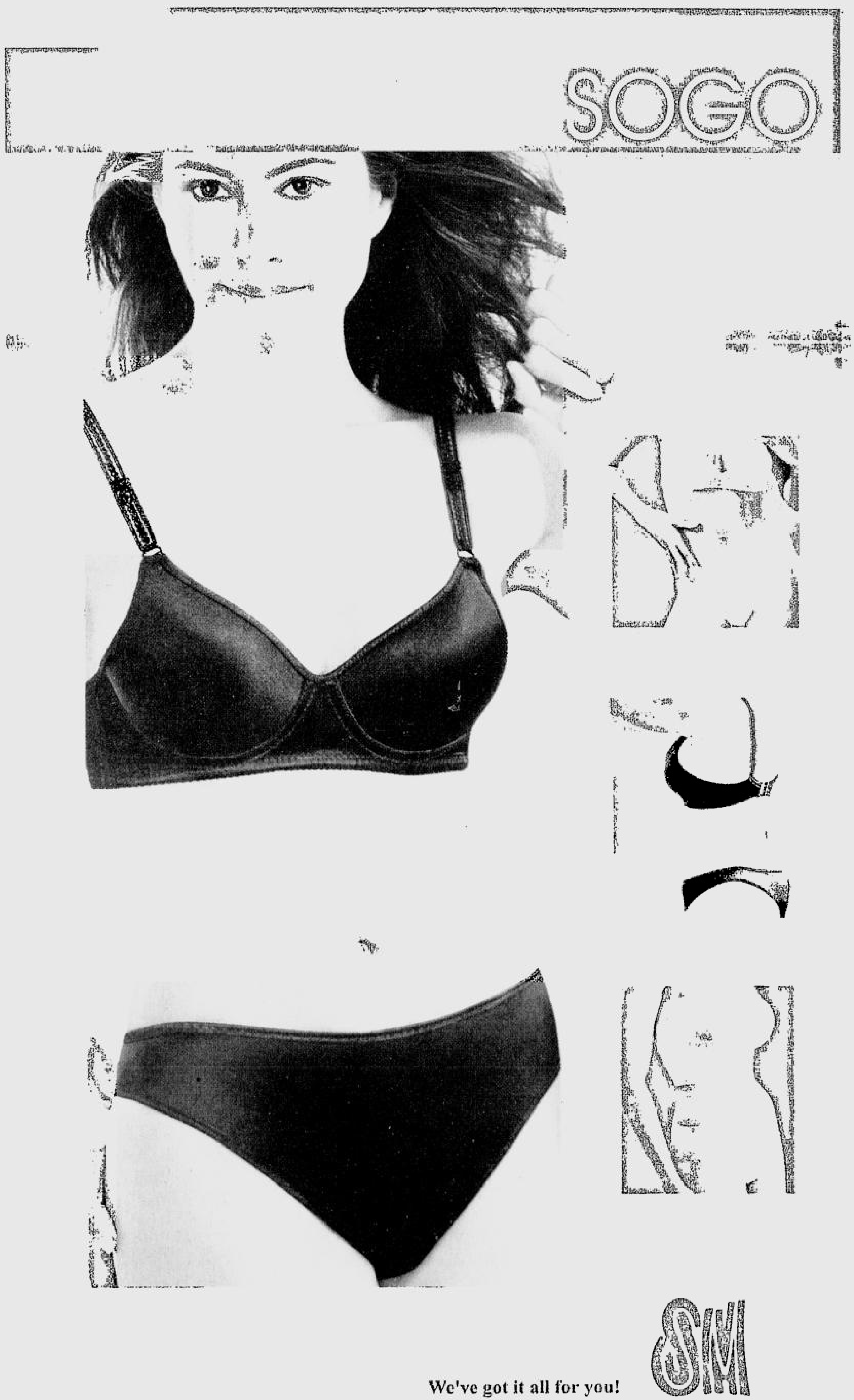
When digital effects are an element of a fight scene, who usually makes the final call, the stunt coordinator or the digital artists? Does working with digital effects make your job easier or more difficult?

The director has the final say. We design the action and show him how it looks, then he looks at it and decides what he needs for the special effects. The final decision is his. There aren't any diffi-

HE KNOWS/ G3

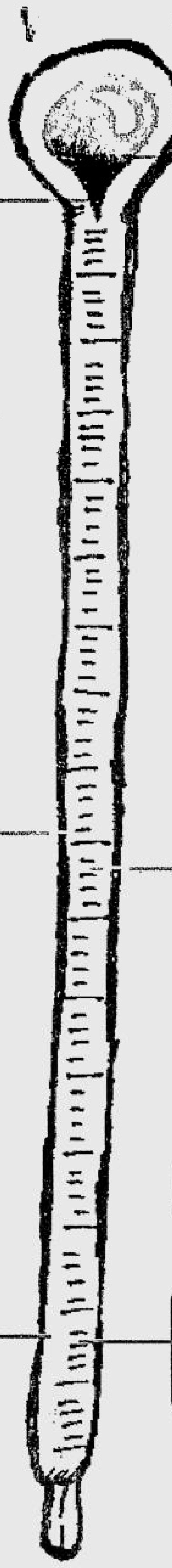


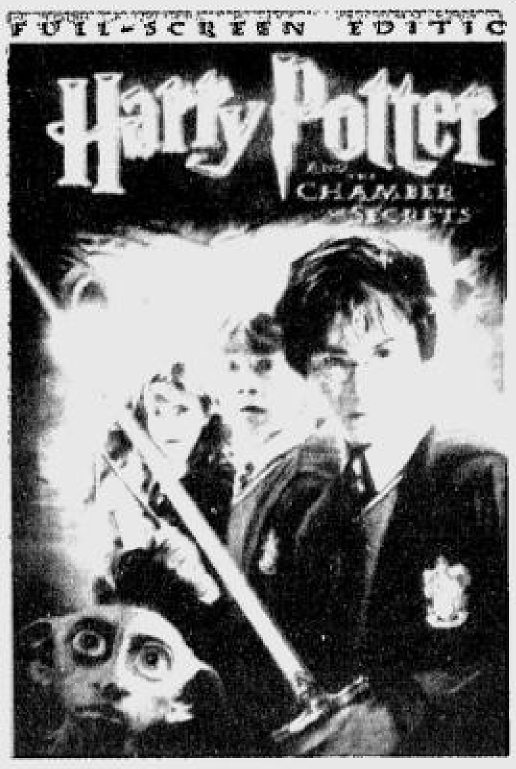
ONE, TWO PUNCH. Martial artist in training


SOGO
We've got it all for you!
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN

2BU! THERMOMETER

'King Kong' remake is hot, kissing girl duo is not

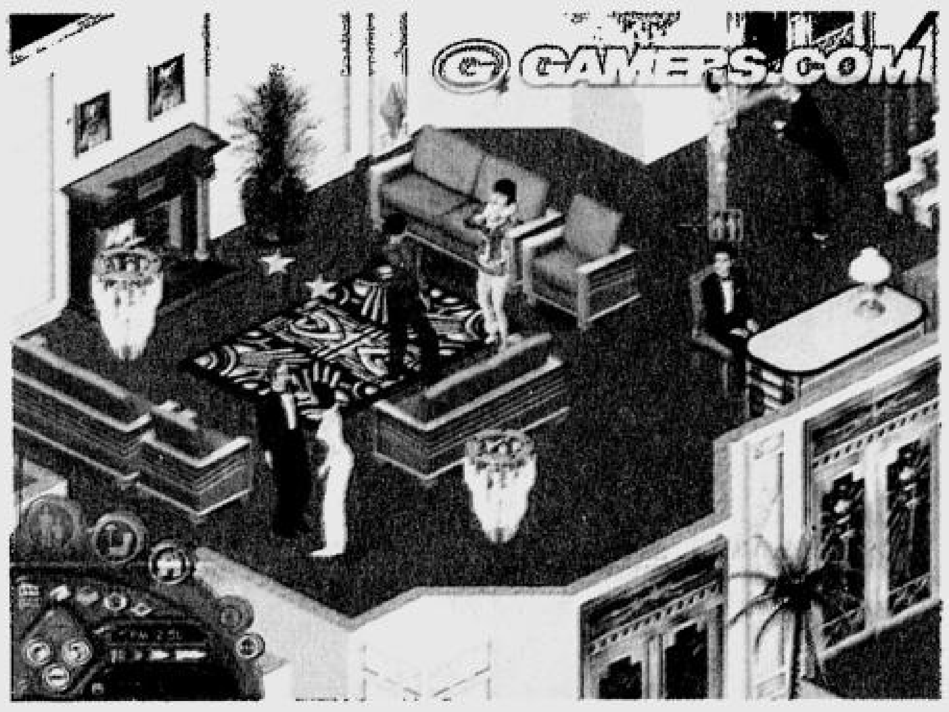



FULL-SCREEN EDITIC
Harry Potter AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

"HARRY POTTER" ON DVD. The bonus CD has Richard Harris solo on the cover with no other copy or art. We couldn't think of a better way to pay tribute to the great actor.

GOODIES AND SWEETS. We love their personal-size cakes. Pam loves their Cheese Sampler and mango desserts, and Maui can't get enough of their Strawberry Shortcake and Strawberry Mousse.

KAFE, KATIPUNAN. Food court by day, gig place by night, it is turning into a breeding ground for new, fresh high school and college bands.



THE SIMS SUPERSTAR. Computer geeks and closet addicts will soon add more life to their simulated denizens with this expansion pack.

T.A.T.U. Avril was bad, this act is worse. We hate record companies "styling" their artists with stupid and degrading gimmicks, like making them kiss each other—even if they happen to be girls.

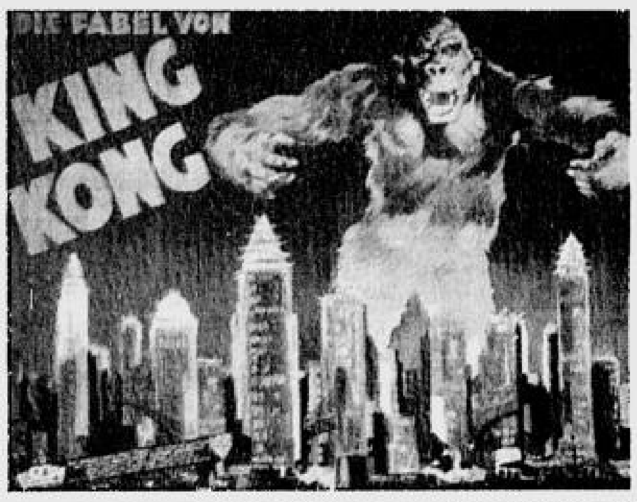
NATALIE PORTMAN. Our sources say the Harvard student is now Kamiseta's new image model. We're hoping local clothing brands would use local talents more, though.

THE PALANCA AWARDS. Today's the deadline for aspiring and accomplished writers to make a bid for the country's foremost literary prize. So have you submitted your masterpiece?

PENSHOPPE'S FRUITY POUT. Fruity flavors with a minty kick and a glossy finish. Yum!

SELF-TANNERS. For those who haven't baked under the sun this summer, they have exactly one month to buy a bottle and convince everyone they have a gorgeous (and healthy!) tan.

"KING KONG RETURNS." Next year, Peter Jackson ("Lord of the Rings") will direct his version of the Kong legend. The new generation probably doesn't know about the love story between a woman and an oversized gorilla, but with the remake, it will.



EVIL SALESPEOPLE. Enough said.

STUPID DRIVERS. There's a reason there are signs that say "NO ENTRY," "EXIT," "NO PARKING" and "NO U-TURN."

"FRIENDS" GET THEIR "SOUP." If you miss Aisha Tyler of "Talk Soup" on the E! channel, you're in for a surprise. She will soon debut on "Friends" as the hot babe caught between Joey's and Ross' undying affection.

At long last! Finally!

By Maui V. Reyes
2bU! Correspondent

Sugarfree's Ebe Dancel answers 20 totally random questions for 2bU!

"SA Wakas!" is the perfect title for Sugarfree's debut album. The band took more than a year to get its baby out in the market, having to play countless gigs and record company scoutings in between.

Now with the singles "Mariposa" and "Telepono" getting constant radio airplay, drummer Mitch Singson, bassist Jal Taguibao and guitarist and vocalist Ebe Dancel are finally getting the recognition they deserve.

2bU! tosses 20 questions to Ebe, who refuses to say what his guilty pleasure is.

1. If you were to design your own surgical mask, what would it look like?

Like a bass drum. It would look funny.

2. When did you realize that the tooth fairy wasn't real?

You mean she's not?

3. What do you know for sure?

That I am turning 27 in a month.

4. What did you have for breakfast today?

I didn't eat breakfast today. *Inubos 'yung pagkain dito sa bahay*. But usually I eat eggs. Lots of eggs. And *tocino*.

5. What's the worst gift you've ever received in your entire life?

Nobody gives me gifts, man.

6. When was the last time you cried and why?

Nung natapos 'yung album *namin*. I went to the little boy's room and cried.

7. If a man from the moon were to land in your backyard, what would you do?

Have him checked for SARS.

8. What's the first thing you'll rescue if your house is on fire?

My guitar. Because I just bought it two days ago and I have no more money, as in no more. I have, like, 20 bucks in my wallet.

9. Do you remember what your favorite childhood toy was?

Hindi kasi kami bumibili ng toys *nung bata kami*. But my cousin had this action figure, *si* Optimus Prime. So I'd stare at it every day.

10. What are your plans for this weekend?

I'm going to Olongapo and then to Baguio and then to Enchanted Kingdom. But that's just for gigs.

11. What CDs are in your player now?

I'm listening to the new Zwan album, the new Foo Fighters, and the itchyworms!'s demo. And Boldstar's album.

12. Complete this sentence: If I could, I'd...

Rid the world of SARS.

13. What are your top three favorite vacation destinations?

Puerto Galera, *ang ganda ng* beach, man. My hometown in Isabela, because all my relatives buy me beer. And my room. *'Di na ako nakakatambay sa* room *ko, eh*.

14. What were you like in high school?

I was a geek, man. I was a loser. Total reject. I was the weird kid. *Lagi lang ako nakatulala*.

15. You'd rather stay at home and clean your room than go to whose concert?

Air Supply. Please, enough.

16. If you could undo one thing in your life, what would it be?

I should have taken college seriously. Because now I don't have a job and I don't have money. Make an example out of me.

17. What do you do at night when you're bored?

Nangungulit ako ng mga kaibigan ko na makipag-inuman.

18. How old were you when you had your first heartbreak?

I was 12. She didn't like me, she liked someone else. She's married now in the US.

19. Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Married in the US.

20. When was the last time you said "I love you" to someone?

Thirty minutes ago—to my cousin.

SUGARFREE vocalist Ebe Dancel
PHOTO. ALDWIN ASPILLERA

He knows kung fu and then some

From page G1

culties. The director will tell us what he wants: for instance, in one scene in a garden, Neo starts fighting someone but as he fights, the person multiplies until there are about 100 of him. Then, we'll just go and work out how the fight scene should look. Once we get the director's "okay," we'll go ahead with that.

Are you using more weapons? Does that present a bigger challenge with digital effects? Did you have to compromise some authenticity to make the action look better with digital effects?

I've never worried about digital effects. The Wachowski brothers are very clear about how they want a scene to look. They give very specific instructions and explain what they expect the digital effects to do, so we just match the action with the effects. The digital effects didn't pose a problem. The action is usually designed to look as good as possible anyway.

Audiences have waited a while for "The Matrix" sequels (the first film was released in 1999), so anticipation and expectations on "Matrix Reloaded" and "Matrix Revolutions" are running particularly high. Has that increased the pressure on you?

Actually, there wasn't much pressure. After I finished "The Matrix," I went straight to "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." When I made the latter, I had no pressure because when I was making "The Matrix," no one could have imagined it would make so much money around the world. No one could have predicted that "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" could have done so well in the US either. It came as a pleasant shock. So I don't let the pressure get to me. The director tells me what he wants and I just design the action to go with his vision. I don't think feeling stressed about it will help the situation.

Your work in "The Matrix" has obviously had an effect on the look of other films; even "Shrek" had a scene spoofing some of its action. How do you feel when you see your work influencing movies that have been made since "The Matrix" was released?

They're only copying the film and the director's vision. Actually, I think it is a good thing and it's quite amusing to see a film being copied like that. It is a kind of honor. You have to be good before other people will copy from you.

Your contribution to "The Matrix" is obvious. How has the film enhanced you both professionally and personally?

The film has actually done a lot for Hong Kong action. It has taken Hong Kong action out of its niche and presented it to the whole world, and now people are aware of how good Hong Kong action is. It is good for the development of the Hong Kong action genre.

Some critics would say that over-exposure of Hong Kong action films could be detrimental. What do you think?

That is true. There are pros and cons to everything. When something good comes along, other people will hop on the bandwagon and work the genre to death. It then turns the audience away. This is the natural cycle.

Three films have brought your talents to the attention of US film lovers: "The Matrix," "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and "Iron Monkey." How did the experience of working on these three films differ for you?

I never, ever thought I would one day be tackling the US market. For instance, when I made "Iron Monkey" all those years ago, my only consideration was to make a movie that could satisfy the audience and my bosses. After I finished the movie, I knew I was satisfied with it. It was a good movie. After making "The Matrix," I told the directors that I was quite confident that the film would do well—although I never imagined it would be as influential as it had become. So it was all a shock. The success of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" in the US was an even bigger shock. When I make my films, I just do my best to give the highest quality. I know that if I do my best then it would never be below-par. I'm very conservative; I usually tell myself if the success reaches a certain level, I would be very happy already. I never dreamed of the kind of success that the films had. There's no sure thing in this business. If there was, and I knew a certain film would do that well, I'd pawn my last belongings to be the boss! My responsibility is to the boss. If the film does well, they are happy and I'm satisfied.

What was it like working with the Wachowski brothers? Ang Lee used to say that he would make unreasonable requests because he didn't understand the limitations of the action. Were the Wachowski brothers the same?

The Wachowski brothers understand action movies very well. With Ang, I knew some of his requests were undoable so I would tell him. Or I would tell him that something he thought was spectacular was really quite common in the industry. The Wachowski brothers didn't make requests in that sense. Most of the time, they would actually tell me what they expected from the sequence. We'd demonstrate what we'd choreographed and they would ask us to make whatever changes they needed. Their method of filming is quite different from other American directors; in fact, their style is closer to the Hong Kong style. For instance, Hollywood directors usually use several cameras to film an action sequence. The Wachowski brothers only used one camera. That's what we do in Hong Kong. They'll find the best angle and work from there, unless the scene is especially dangerous or had complicated effects.

How much of your own kung fu did you utilize in the choreography of "Matrix Reloaded" and "Matrix Revolutions"?

Not much. I have realized that what you learn in actual kung fu is of little use when you transplant that in front of a camera. You have to add some creative moves to it. What we learn is very staid, it doesn't change. But in movies, things are changing constantly, so you actually have to match the action with the characters and storylines and the scenes. You have to be more versatile.

You've worked with both Asian and Hollywood actors. Have you noticed any difference in how these two groups respond to your training?

It's not a big difference. It's just the Asian style of fighting and the western style are different. Asian stars are usually more familiar with doing action so they really don't need much training, but Hollywood stars need to be trained. If they are not trained, they don't look good. Of course, you get a lot more time to work with western actors unlike in Hong Kong where you have practically no time to work on their action. The Hong Kong solution is also quite simple: Can't fight? Just use a stunt double! With The Matrix, the Wachowski brothers wanted the actors to do all their own stunts. Keanu had to fight in over 30 scenes so he needed to have longer training time. At the end of the day, it all depends on the director's expectations.

Movie critics and fans often associate you with wire-work. How far do you think wire-work can still be pushed creatively?

There's always room for change. Even when it reaches what we feel is the limit, we can always use computer effects to enhance it again and add more interesting aspects to it. Computer effects are one thing and action is another, but packaging the two together will give rise to something more interesting.

When considering work on new projects, what are your criteria now? Has that changed since doing the "Matrix" films? Is the "East-meets-West" element an appealing factor?

As long as I feel that I can do something interesting in a project, I would take it. The East-meets-West concept is very difficult. I think it fails more often than it works, unless it is a film like "The Matrix" where the elements are all western and then they just add the Hong Kong action element. When it comes to mixing eastern and western actors, it's hard to make it work unless the script is exceptionally well-written.

In the first "Matrix" film, none of the actors had any martial arts experience, but in the two sequels you used two karate experts, Neil and Adrian Raiment, as actors. Was it easier to design the action sequences around them?

We didn't feature any karate in the sequels. They used other forms of fighting but they were good. Their action was very clean and they delivered what was expected. They caught up faster but they still hand to undergo training.

What was it like working with Keanu this time around?

He has improved a lot in the second and third parts. He still had to undergo a lot of training but then he had a lot more action in the sequels and he also had to train with weapons. In the first part, his fights were mainly hand-to-hand combat and one-on-one fights. In the sequels, he has a harder time because in one scene, he has to take on 100 people at once.

What was it like training Jada Pinkett-Smith?

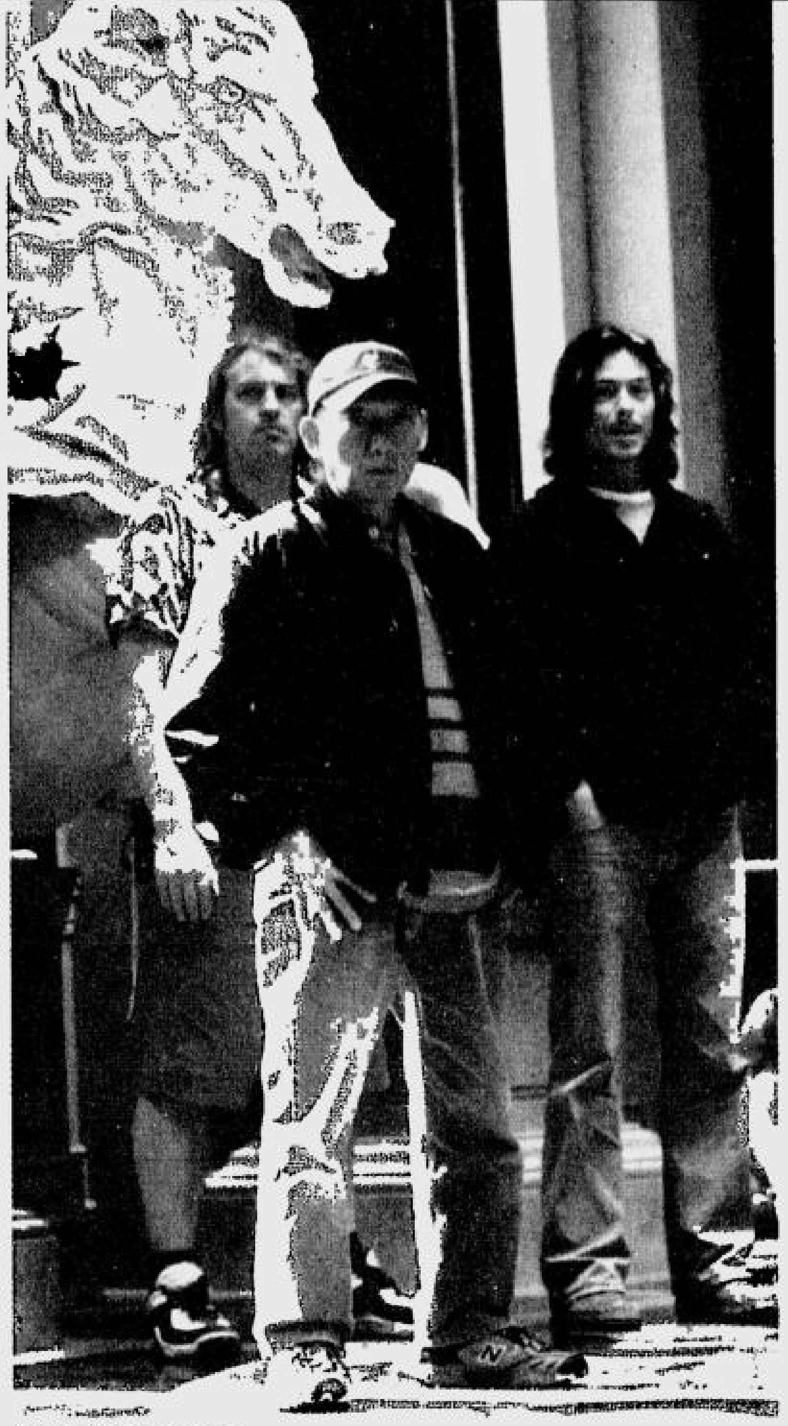
She joined the cast later in the preparation period so we didn't have as much time with her as with the other actors. Having said that, she spent two months training, which was long enough for us to train her and make her fighting scenes look good.

You spent a lot of time training the protagonists of the movie; did the villains get as much training time?

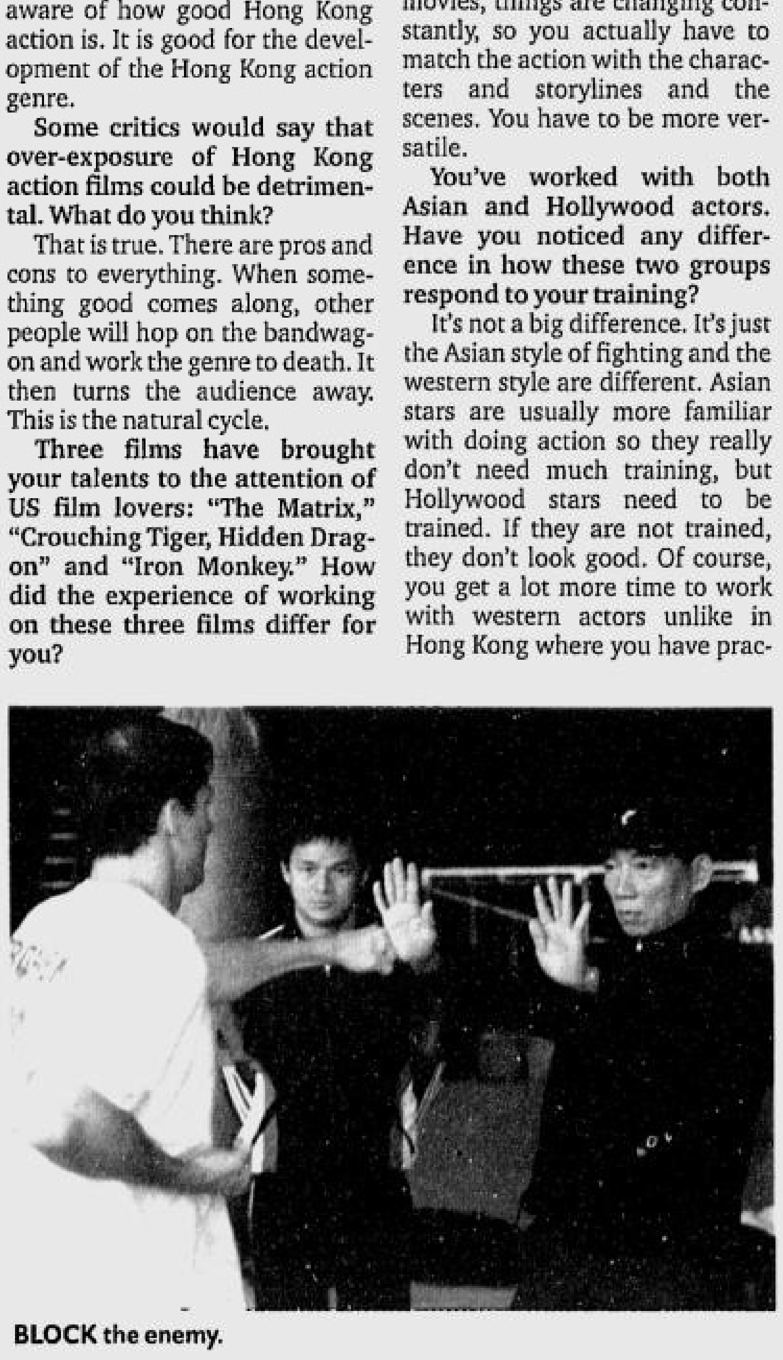
Yes, they spent the same amount of time training but they didn't train together. We just separated them into different groups.

What is coming up for you?

I'm taking a rest!



ENTER the dragons.



BLOCK the enemy.

DUNKIN' DONUTS
X-MEN 2
PUZZLES!

Get 1 puzzle **FREE!** with every purchase of a dozen Dunkin' Donuts.
Available in **4 X-citing designs,** each containing a special frame where you can put your favorite photo!

Hurry, collect all 4 **now** and be with your favorite X-Men character!

Catch the action in theaters on April 30.

Promo period is from April 20 to May 20, 2003.
Available only at participating outlets with promo posters nationwide. Not valid for gift certificates, Senior Citizens' discounts and other discounts.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1514, Series of 2003

Addict Mobile

Yet Another Revolutionary Idea from Smart

Introducing Addict

An addict is just a face in the crowd. The only thing that differentiates them is what their addiction is. And that's what makes them who they are. Athletes are sports addicts; couch potatoes are TV addicts; and most Filipinos are text addicts. Call it an obsessive pastime or interest, essentially that's what a true addict is. He may be a music addict or a car addict. She may be a fashion addict or a basketball addict. The bottom line is, they're addicted to their passion.

Meet Addict Mobile

Addict Mobile is another first from the innovative minds behind SMART Communications. It is essentially a revolutionary mobile service specially designed for the sportive and radical youth market with a burning passion for life, offering exclusive multimedia content that defines the youthful and active lifestyle of today. In effect, Addict Mobile gives you the power to access a wide range of data value added services (VAS), multimedia messaging service (MMS), and general packet radio service (GPRS) without having to pay on top of your monthly service fee. Plus, only Addict Mobile offers the Smart Amazing Phone—the only handset that is capable of handling packet data at incredibly fast speeds.

Addict Mobile is essentially a service that identifies with the young and appreciates that each individual is unique largely because of his or her addictions—or strong passions in life. These are the zesty trendsetters who live life to the fullest and therefore deserve the most out of it. This is what Addict Mobile is about.

If there's one common ground among most Filipinos, it's an insatiable appetite for communicating, therefore a burning passion for connectivity. Being able to stay in touch, be it through voice calls, e-mail, text or multi-media messaging, is what makes us tick these days. That's why we're slaves to our cellphones. With Addict Mobile, a whole new world of opportunities awaits. SMART has always been at the forefront of innovation, always the first in coming up with new, creative concepts, making them not just the leading wireless network but also the most inventive.

With Addict Mobile, your lifestyle is the priority. Accessing your addictions couldn't be made easier and more affordable. Addict Mobile is the only post-paid service that allows you to get your fix on whatever it is in life you're addicted to.

Say you're a sports addict, get the lowdown on your favorite basketball team by downloading the multi-media content through GPRS. You might want Michael Jordan's farewell appearance photo as your homepage on your handset's screen. The simple, easy to follow My Addictions folder makes exploring and downloading a breeze. Find out who's on top of the English League or get some football tips along with a high-resolution image of some of the top footballers in the world. For those who love screaming car engines hurtling around world-famous tracks, there's F1 News. Tennis addicts score an ace with Addict Mobile—all they have to do is select 'Tennis' from My Addictions and the latest news and match results will appear on their screen. For the divers, Addict Mobile has tips, classifieds and chat. Chat with fellow divers through your Addict handset or buy and sell dive gear without even leaving the house. It can all be done through your Addict handset.

It goes for all fashion addicts, news addicts, music addicts, Health & Fitness addicts and gadget addicts. Only Addict Mobile gives you your own channel which you can fully customize based on your personal addictions in life.

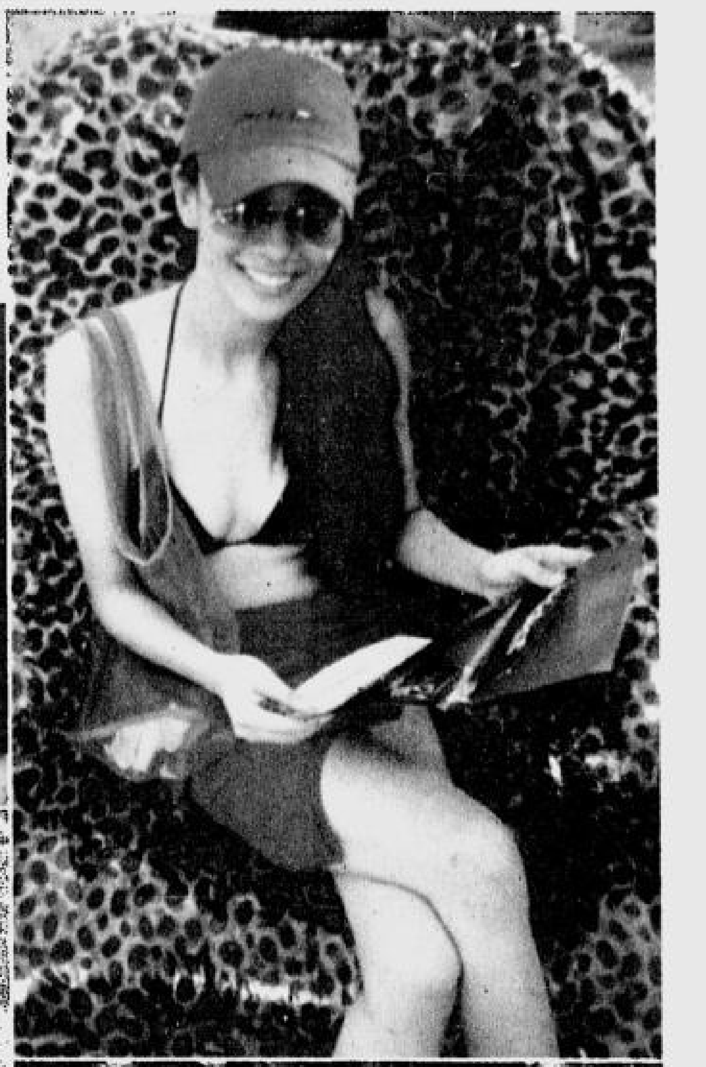
But Addict Mobile isn't just about the young. Addictions aren't limited to the youth. For instance, established baby boomers who work as hard as they play often enjoy their addictions and therefore need to rekindle their youth. Addict Mobile is for them too. They may be respected movers and shakers in their fields, but during their free time, they can very well be free-spirited adventurers with a passion for taking up something new.

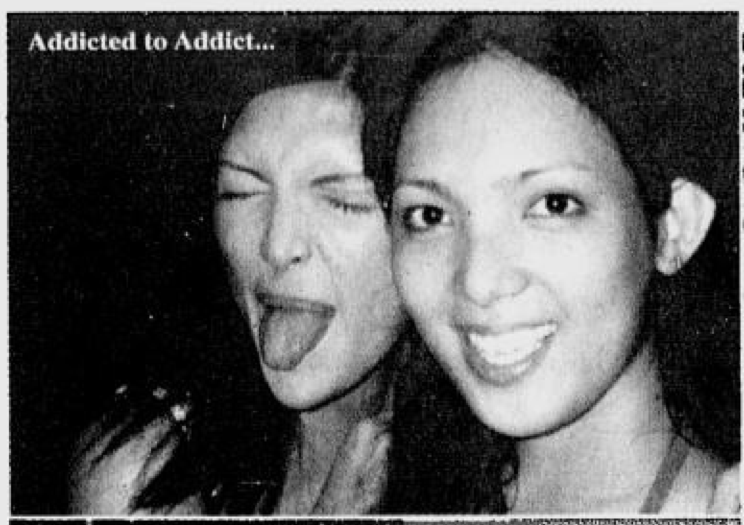
The Differentiation

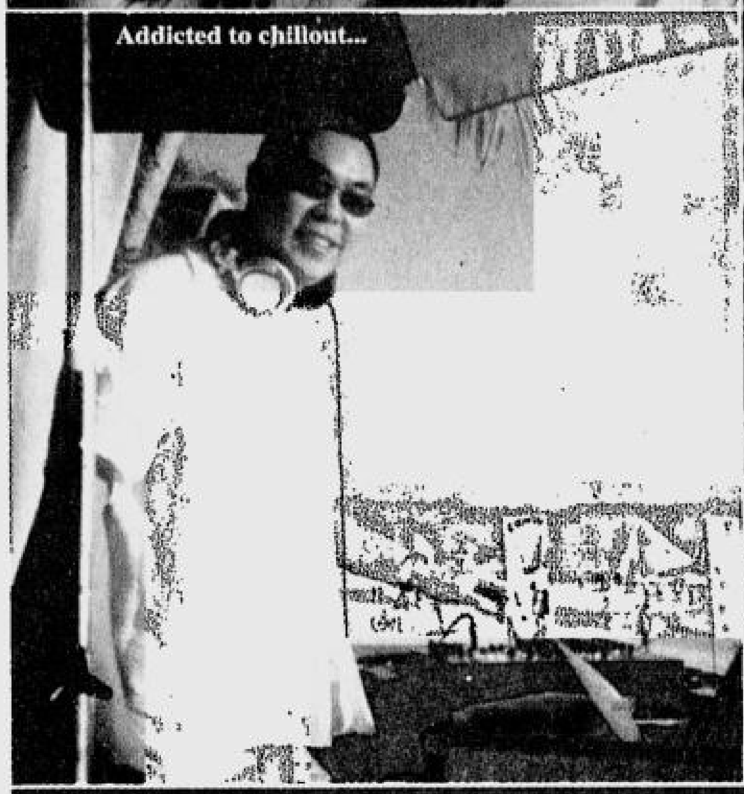
What Addict Mobile can deliver that other post-paid plans can't is being able to indulge in one's addictions without emptying the wallet. As a matter of fact, you can get hooked on your addictions via MMS for as little as P5, only with Addict Mobile. No other wireless network lets you satisfy your urge for so little, making your guilty pleasures (if you can call them that) nothing but a pleasure. Even information that matters, such as news and other business content can be pulled down at only P5 per download, versus having to browse the Net via GPRS which can cost at least 6 times as much only to end up with the same content.

And in the true spirit of respecting one's preferences and individuality, Addict Mobile even allow its subscribers to keep their existing contact numbers through its Number Retention program. So, existing Smart Gold subscribers can also avail of an Addict Mobile line without having to settle for a new number—saving them the hassle of having to inform everyone of a new number thereby giving them more time to indulge in their addictions on their Addict Mobile handsets.

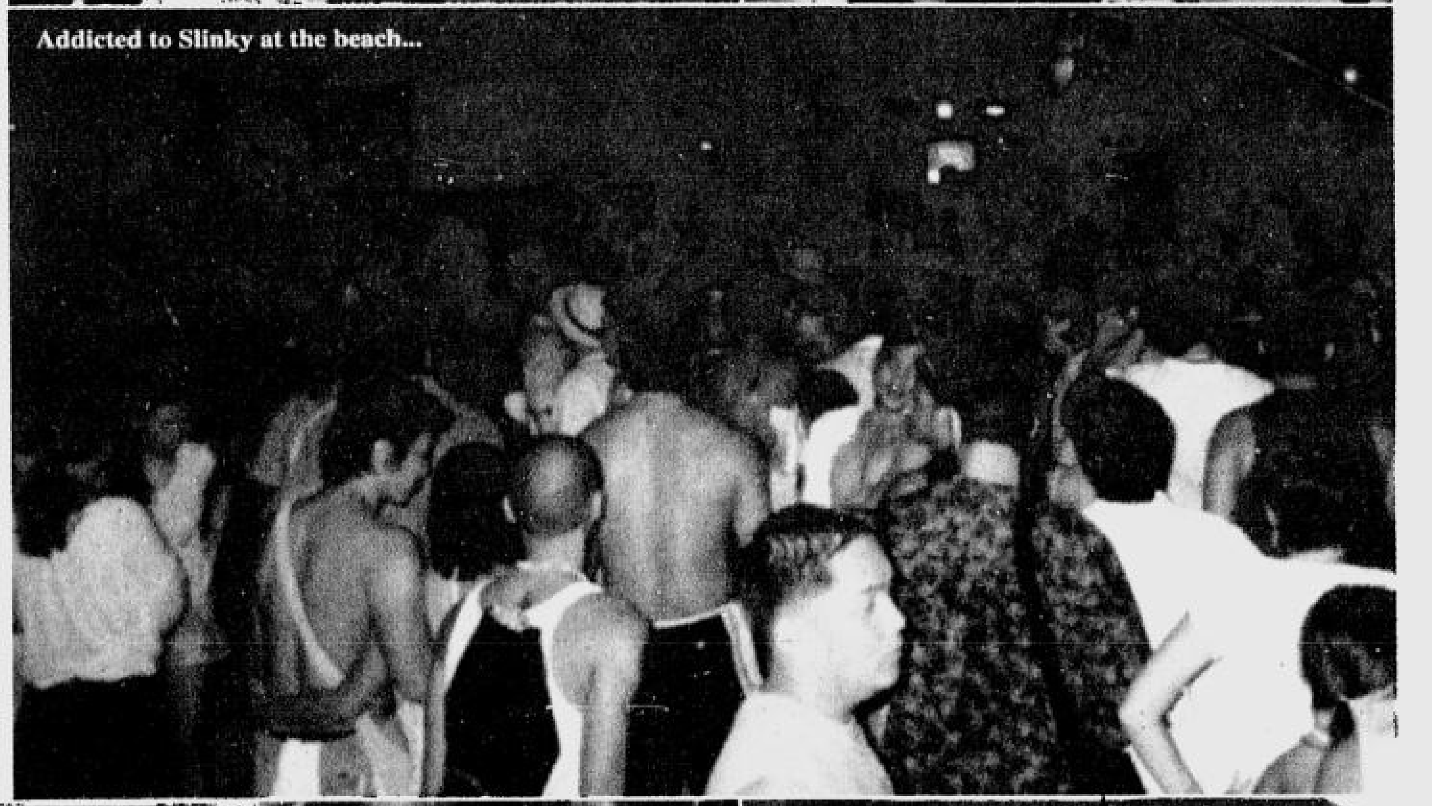
Now that you know the neo-definition of the word, give in to your addictions and get loaded with Addict Mobile.

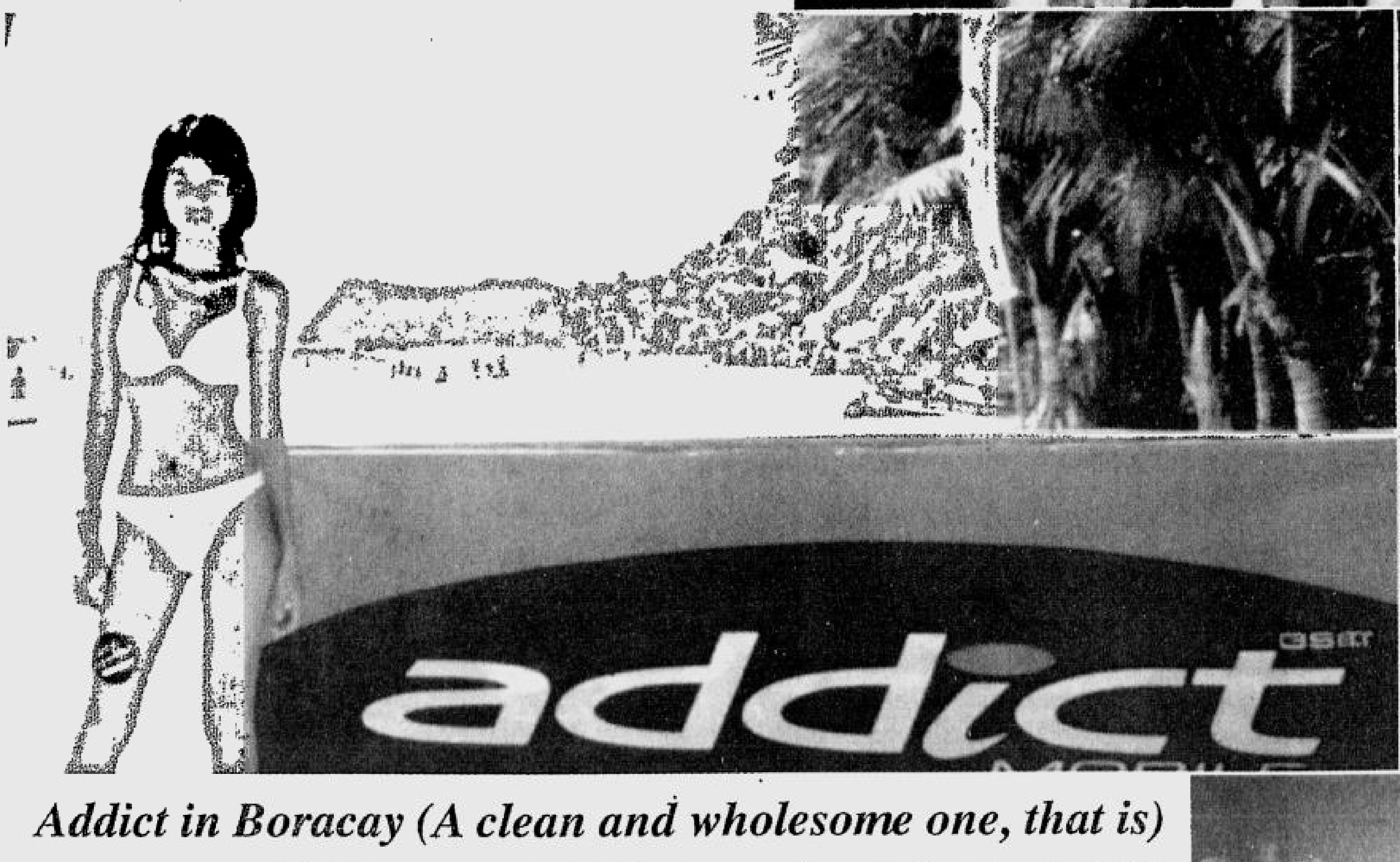



Addicted to Addict...


Addicted to chillout...

SMART
WIRELESS CENTER
Addicted to SMART...


Addicted to Slinky at the beach...



How can you resist being an addict?

Addict in Boracay (A clean and wholesome one, that is)

I had just received my new Addict SIM a week before and to tell you the truth I was more than a little excited with the latest revolution in mobile services to hit town. I couldn't wait to click and surf away on the Addict Portal which promises everything for nearly all types of addicts—sports addicts, car addicts, lifestyle addicts, just name it.

The term addict connotes a powerful, overwhelming obsession. And that's just the way I feel about my interests, just as I'm sure everyone does. The name may be controversial, but Addict caters only to "clean" interests and not to the dark drug netherworld from where the term may be rooted. Anyway, while moralists and naysayers split hairs on the name, I personally couldn't agree more with Addict as it applies to the one thing that makes life worth living—passion.

And it was exactly a passion for fun in the sun which led me to Boracay last April 17, 2003, HighNoon for the official season in summer partying. Addict by all accounts dominated the famous four kilometer stretch for the holidays. I had the famous cool white sands underfoot and a beeline to all the Addict events, what more to ask?

The very day I got there, an Ultimate Frisbee tournament was happening right in front of Hey Jude. I had never seen anything like it, a version of touch football played with frisbees, "goals" scored when players made catches in opposing endzones. After that hot and sweaty action (the players were panting away) everybody deserved to cool off. What followed was a phenomenal Sunset Session by Anton Ramos, The Man behind the Chillout Project. Every track was perfect and inspirational, especially as another dramatic Boracay sunset dipped into history. Soon after, Hey Jude DJs followed up with Island Grooves, a bit more racy and up tempo.

zApril 18, Friday saw Jungle Beach Volleyball at the same venue, with no less intense action. How do these volleyball addicts do it? Running, diving, and digging under the blazing sun? Guess that's Addict-ion in Action for you. Again, Hey Jude soothed and swayed the crowd with a FeelGood Session well into the night.

April 19, Saturday was Beach Football day and soccer Addicts kicked up the sand to lusty applause. Admittedly, I was there to witness the Slinky roadshow set to quake the beach with this London Club's distinctive Progressive House music. What a turnout. What a party. Addict was prudent enough to post an anti-drugs sign by the dance stage to make a crucial point of distinction.

I can't and won't forget it, who would?

The SMART Team

Ultimate frisbee addicts...

ADVT

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE

Culinary nirvana

TEMPLE Roasted Garlic Crab with Garlic Noodles

Text by Pam Pastor
Photos by Mike Alquinto

Temple Bar and restaurant is home to mouthwatering dishes that are delightful to one's palate

THE place lives up to its name. When you walk into Temple Bar and Restaurant, calmness descends upon you and wraps itself around your shoulders like the lightest of light blankets. A higher state of consciousness? Maybe.

It can be the soothing interiors. Or the large 9-foot bronze Buddha that is guarding the restaurant and its people. Then again, it can be the promise of good food. Really really good food.

Temple Bar isn't 23-year-old Erik Cua's first business venture. He first put up a coffee shop in Cainta when he was 19 and fresh out of De La Salle University where he took up Business Management. Then he established Jack's Loft in Eastwood, known for its sinful desserts and fishbowl iced teas, and Basement, one of the more popular clubs in Libis.

Since it opened two months ago, Temple Bar has become a popular hangout for people who want to unwind after a long day. But the place has so much more to offer than cocktails and finger food. Temple Bar is home to so many mouthwatering dishes that are delightful to one's palate.

"The cuisine is Pan-Asian. It's a mix of Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai and Malaysian food."

Putting the menu together proved not to be hard for Erik because he comes from a family of food lovers. "We always like eating out. The items in the menu are really everything that we want. My mom takes care of the kitchen. She works hand in hand with the chef."

Best dishes

We sampled some of Temple Bar's best dishes and were not at all disappointed.

The meal started with the flavorful Hot and Sour Soup. The two salads we tried were both a treat for different reasons. The Tuna, Mango and Apple Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette was refreshing. The almonds added texture to the already colorful combination of different tastes. Anyone who enjoys Peking duck will love Hoisin Chicken Salad.

Chili Shrimps, a hit at Temple Bar's launch, were even better than I remembered. They were topped with herbs that did not overpower the flavor of the juicy shrimps. Salmon with Hoisin and Black Bean Egg Roll was a new experience for our tastebuds. The tasty slivers of salmon contrasted perfectly with the dark flavors of black beans and hoisin sauce.

Oriental Seafood Soba, which comes with a generous heap of toppings, was a discovery. Kung Pao Chicken is also a must-try.

Our favorites, apart from the shrimps, were the Pan-Fried Halibut in Miso and Coriander with Vegetable Rice and Temple Roasted Garlic Crab with Garlic Noodles. The Pan-Fried Halibut was so tender and flaky. It literally melts in the mouth. The crab, which was so big and so meaty, was sinfully garlicky. The crab and garlic noodles were a heavenly match.

CULINARY/ H2

Collectiones New York
70% Discount 34th Anniversary
Promo Period April 30-May 30, 2003

	BEFORE	NOW
Polo Ralph Lauren (Ladies and Men)	P1,995	P599.99
Lacoste (Ladies and Men)	P1,595	P799.99
Moschino Long Sleeves (Ladies)	P1,599	P799.99
YSL (Long Sleeves)	P1,995	P399.99
Faconable, Celio (Short Sleeves)	P1,999.99	P799.99
Burberry, Diesel, Versace, Calvin Klein, Nike, Boss, Giorgio Armani (T-Shirt)	P1,295	P599.99
Dunhill, Versace, Emporio Armani,YSL, Mario Armani, Pierre Cardin Valentino, (Neckties)	P2,995	P399.99
Prada, Louis Vuitton, Ferregamo,Hermes, Gucci, Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger (Bags)	P5,995	P999.99
Dunhill, Hugo, Boss, Gucci, YSL Ferragamo Versace (Belts)	P2,995	P499.99
Ferragamo, Prada, Louis Vuitton,Gucci, Dunhill, Ralph Lauren (Wallets)	P3,995	P599.99
Gucci, Channel, YSL, Versache Oakley, Prada(Sunglasses)	P6,000	P599.99

Ground Floor Glorietta 3 135 Ayala Center Makati in bet. Ritratto and McDonalds, Tower Record Entrance Tel. Nos. 893-3310/813-1133 Cell No. 09175337412
Per DTI NCR permit No. AI-228 Series 2003

The Maya Kitchen
CULINARY ARTS CENTER

RICE IN A BOX & PINOY FASTFOOD

Know the ins and outs of rice-in-box and Pinoy fastfood business this May. Learn about the licensing requirement, capitalization, basic equipment, layouting, sourcing, storage and actual menu presentation in putting up a food business. Be competitive and see how you par with other existing establishments by offering something new. Get into business now!

Rice in a Box Business: May 3 (Sat) 9 - 4 p.m. Lecture on the technical and operational aspects of business, food hygiene and sanitation, costing and actual demonstration of recipes: Drunken Chicken, Beef Tenderloin with Leeks, Crispy Porkchop, Spareribs with Sweet & Spicy Sauce, Clams in Yellow Sauce by Sita Ram, Chef and Consultant. P1,500.

Pinoy Fastfood: (Carinderia, Pondohan, Lugawan, etc.) May 24 (Sat) 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Lecture on the technical and operational aspects of the business, hygiene, sanitation & safety, costing and actual cooking demonstration of popular low cost fastfood recipes; different kinds of Lomi, Pork Asado, Fresh & Fried Lumpia, Pancit Malabon, Adobong Pusit, different kinds of BBQ. Cycle menu sampler use of extenders, etc. P1,500

SUMMER WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS & TEENERS (Enrolment is on a first come, first served basis)

JUNIOR CULINARY WORKSHOP for boys and girls 6-10 years old.

Kiddie Meal Specials; May 14 & 15 (W - Th) 8:30 a.m. - 12 nn. Edible Fish Ball, Mean & Lean Meatloaf, Potato Chip Chicken Fingers, Embutido Burger Rice, Baked Chicken Tomato Pasta, Rainbow Soup, Sweet & Sour Pops, Fish & Chips. Activity Workshop: colored and flavored pasta making & homemade play dough. P1,500.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S COOK-IN (YPCI) for teeners.

Chocolate Galore; May 10 & 17 (Sat) 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Chocolate Chunk, Banana Bars, Chocolate Cheesecake, Black & White Cookies, Trio of Chocolate Truffles, Chocolate Mousse, Chocolate Marzipan Fruit. Activity Workshop: Character color flow. P2,000.

SPECIAL COURSES FOR ADULTS: (First come, first served basis)

Baking with Institutional Mixes; May 10 (Sat) 1:30 - 5 p.m. Assorted Brownies (Black Forest, Apple Chunk, Rocky Road); Pineapple Carrot Cake; Choco-Banana Loaf; Chocolate Muffins with Fudge Frosting; Hotdog on Stick; Butterscotch Squares and Chocolate Crinkles. P600.

Japanese Cooking; May. 17 (Sat) 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Miso Soup, Mixed Tempura, Sukiyaki, Kamameshi; assorted Sushi: Kappamaki, Tekamaki, California Maki and Nigiri. P800

Gulaman Delights; May 17 (Sat) 1:30 - 5 p.m. Cathedral Window, Buko Pandan Salad, Moulded Fruit desserts, Icebox Cake. Bonus: edible centerpiece P600.

Kakanin; May 24 (Sat) 1:30 - 5 p.m. Puto, Cuchinta, Cassava Bibingka, Pichi Pichi, Maja Blanca. Bonus: Maya Bibingka & Tamales P600.

CERTIFICATE COURSES WITH HANDS-ON (For Adults: Pre-registration required)

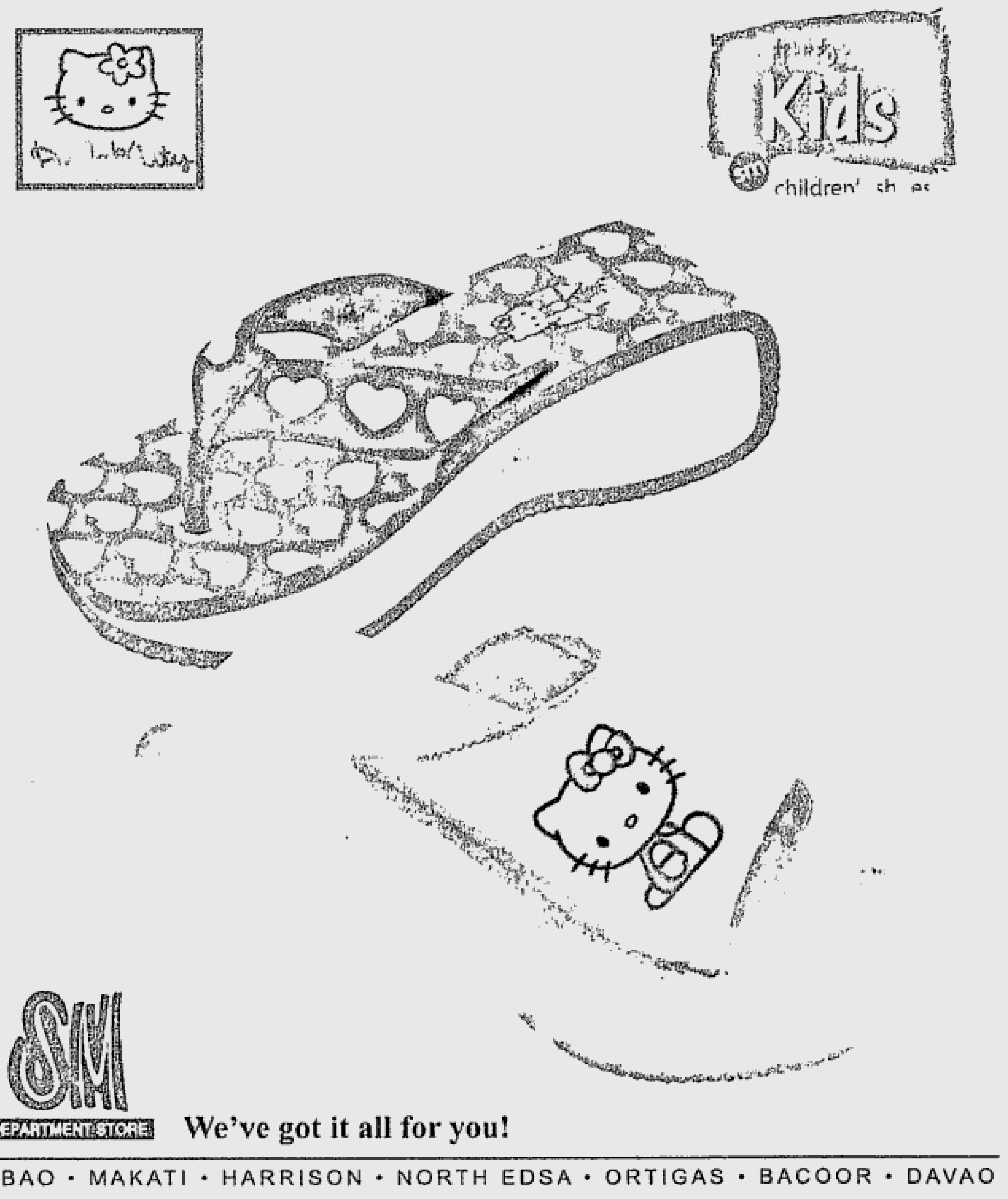
Cake Decorating (Basic); May. 3 & 10 (Sat) 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Lecture-workshop on fundamentals of cake decorating; coloring, designing, template, icing (boiled, butter, caramel, chocolate, sugar icing); basic borders, jelly lettering, basic flower making and bunching and motiff. Free decorating tips. P2,000.

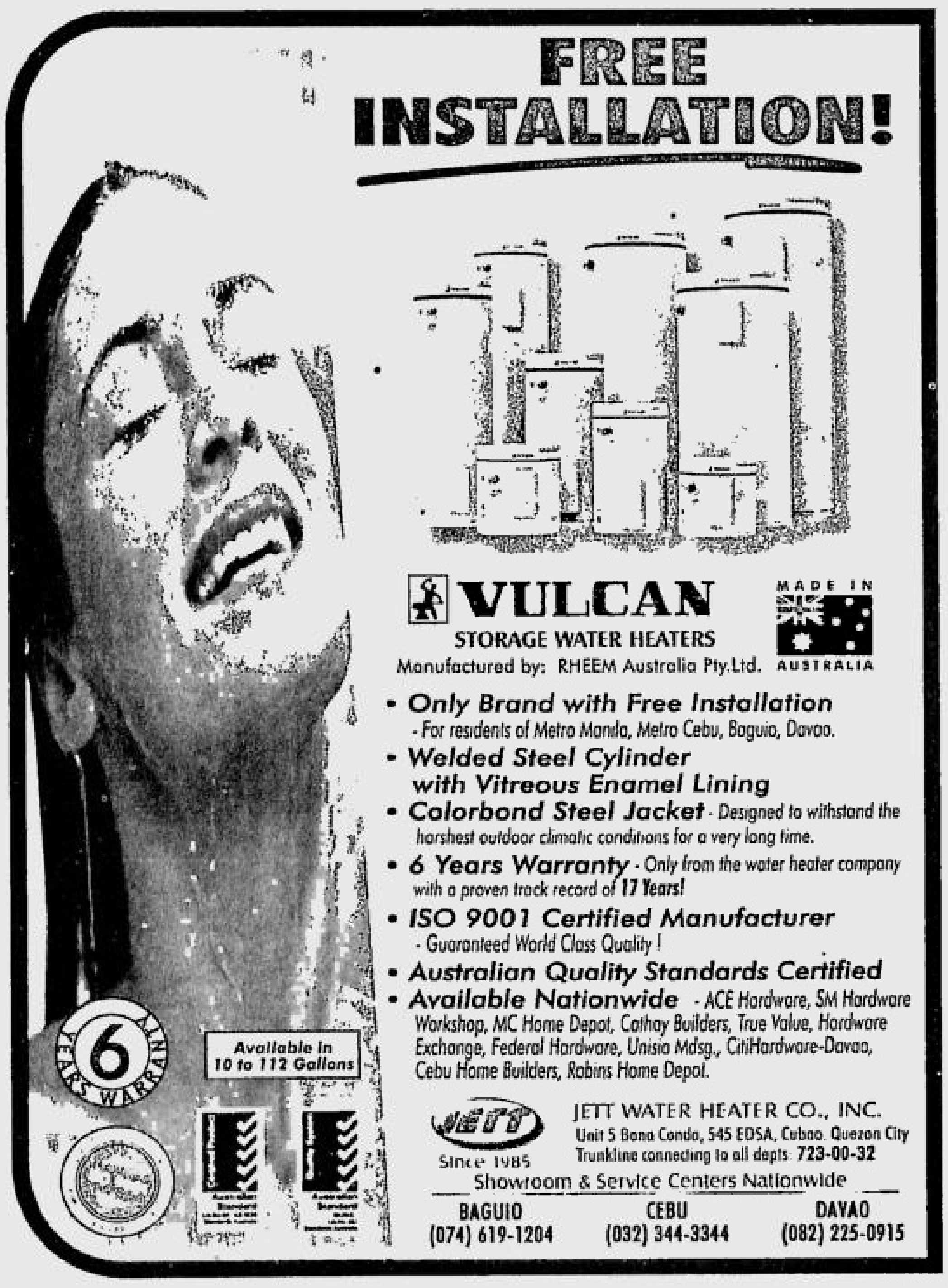
Baking I (Basic): Apr. 7-9 or 21-23 (W - F) 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. Techniques in preparing basic pie crust, different types of cakes, quick bread, yeast breads and more. P2,000

Cooking I (Basic) For Messmen, Stewards and Beginners: May 13 - 16 or 27 - 30 (T - F) 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. Basic food preparation, cooking methods for vegetables, pasta, meats and poultry dishes; Techniques of de-boning chicken and fish; Basic garnishing; Actual preparation of popular Filipino and Oriental dishes. P2,500

Cooking II (Comprehensive Cooking) For Career Cooks: May 27- 30 (T-F) 9:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. Coverage: Standard techniques of preparing basic stocks, soups and sauces applicable to 1001 recipes; salads and dressing; main dishes; potato cookery; pasta and rice; techniques of deboning and filleting fish and chicken; use of herbs and spices to cooking; basic garnish for plate and platter presentation. Free lunch. P3,000

For inquiries, visit the Maya Kitchen (Tuesdays thru Saturdays) at 8th floor, Liberty Building, A. Arnaiz Ave.(Pasay Road), Makati City or call tel. 892-1185 or 892-5011 loc. 108; or e-mail us at mayakitchen@pacific.net.ph


Kids
children's shoes
SM DEPARTMENT STORE We've got it all for you!
CUBAO • MAKATI • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • ORTIGAS • BACOOR • DAVAO


FREE INSTALLATION!
VULCAN
STORAGE WATER HEATERS
Manufactured by: RHEEM Australia Pty.Ltd.
MADE IN AUSTRALIA

- Only Brand with Free Installation - For residents of Metro Manila, Metro Cebu, Baguio, Davao.
- Welded Steel Cylinder with Vitreous Enamel Lining
- Colorbond Steel Jacket - Designed to withstand the harshest outdoor climatic conditions for a very long time.
- 6 Years Warranty - Only from the water heater company with a proven track record of 17 Years!
- ISO 9001 Certified Manufacturer - Guaranteed World Class Quality!
- Australian Quality Standards Certified
- Available Nationwide - ACE Hardware, SM Hardware Workshop, MC Home Depot, Cathay Builders, True Value, Hardware Exchange, Federal Hardware, Unisia Mdsg., CitiHardware-Davao, Cebu Home Builders, Robins Home Depot.

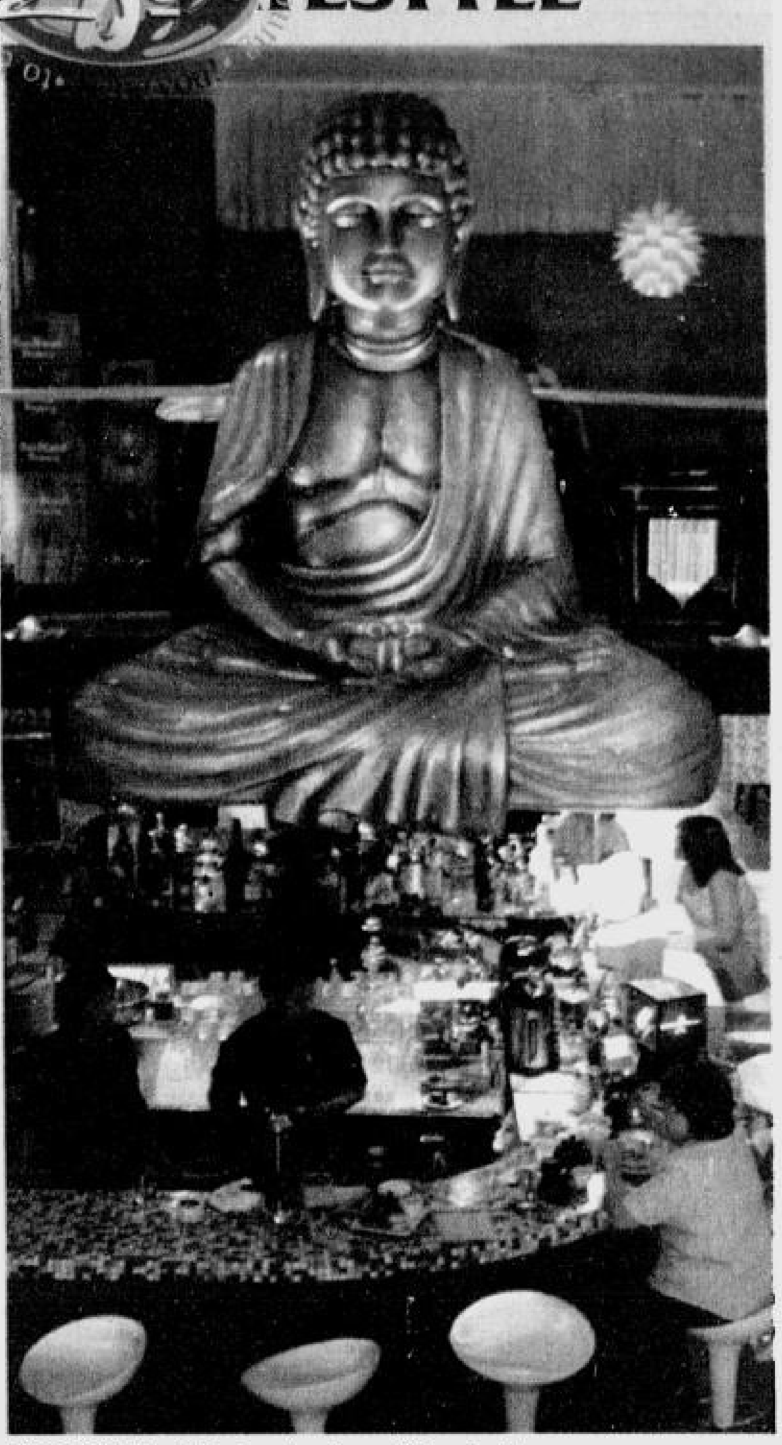
6 YEARS WARRANTY
Available in 10 to 112 Gallons

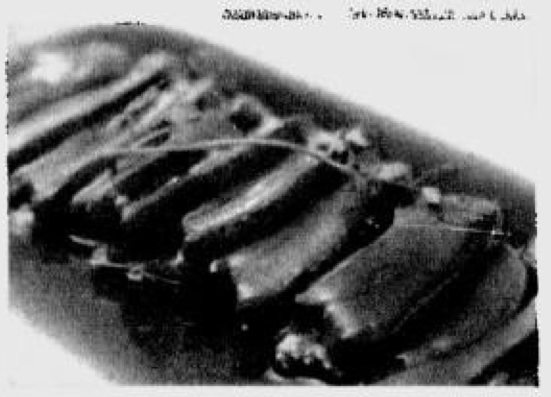
JETT Since 1985
JETT WATER HEATER CO., INC.
Unit 5 Bana Condo, 545 EDSA, Cubao. Quezon City
Trunkline connecting to all depts 723-00-32
Showroom & Service Centers Nationwide
BAGUIO (074) 619-1204
CEBU (032) 344-3344
DAVAO (082) 225-0915

C-I-X-T-O-R
YAN ANG BINIBILI NI MOMMY!

TEMPLE cheesecake in blueberry

HEAVEN Sent chocolate cake


BUDDHA, the 9-foot centerpiece of Temple Bar


BRAISED Pork in Shaosing Wine

TUNA, Mango and Apple Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette

ORIENTAL Seafood Soba

SALMON with Hoisin and Black Bean Egg Roll

PAN-FRIED Halibut in Miso and Coriander with Vegetable Rice

Culinary nirvana

From page H1

The meal ended with Temple Cheesecake, which we ordered in blueberry (they also have mango and strawberry), and the Heaven Sent Chocolate Cake with Caramel Sauce. The cheesecake was light and creamy and the chocolate cake was moist and rich.

Needless to say, it was a very memorable meal.

The list doesn't end there. Temple Bar still has a lot of other dishes to offer palates looking for an adventure. We asked Erik to recommend an entire meal for first timers.

"Start with the Fried Spring Rolls or the Chicken Satay Skewers with Coco Peanut Sauce. Then have the Hoisin Chicken Salad, the Braised Pork in Shaosing Wine, Stir-Fry Rice and end the meal with Heaven Sent Chocolate Cake."

When asked to choose only one dish from the whole menu that he would have to eat everyday, Erik did not think twice. "The Braised Pork." This dish was a contradiction—the flavors were subtle and powerful at the same time.

Erik has more plans for Temple Bar. Theme nights and adding more items to the menu are on top of his list.

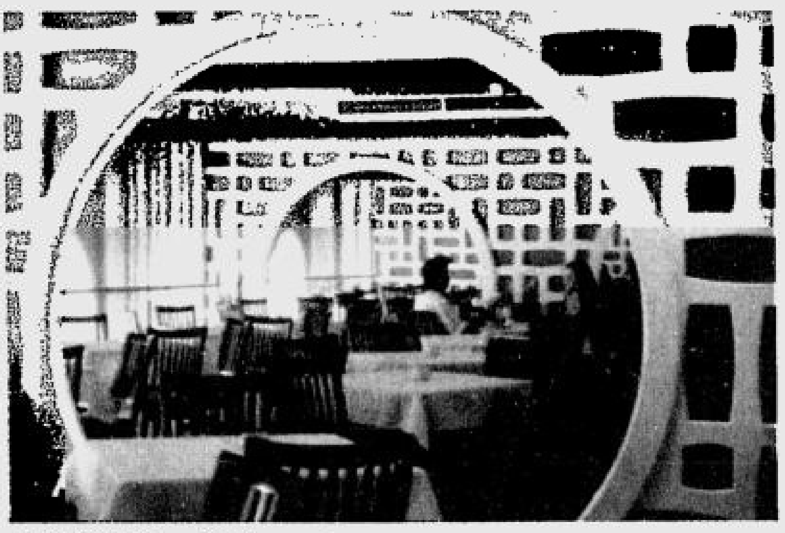
The prices are considerably reasonable. Erik made a point to see to that. "Good food, good value," he said with a smile.

This might be as close to culinary nirvana as one might get.

If this is the road to enlightenment, we'd gladly keep coming back.

E-mail the author at ppastor@inquirer.com.ph

CHILI shrimps


THE ROAD to enlightenment

ERIK Cua

NEW VIDEOS ON THE BLOCK

The boys are back!

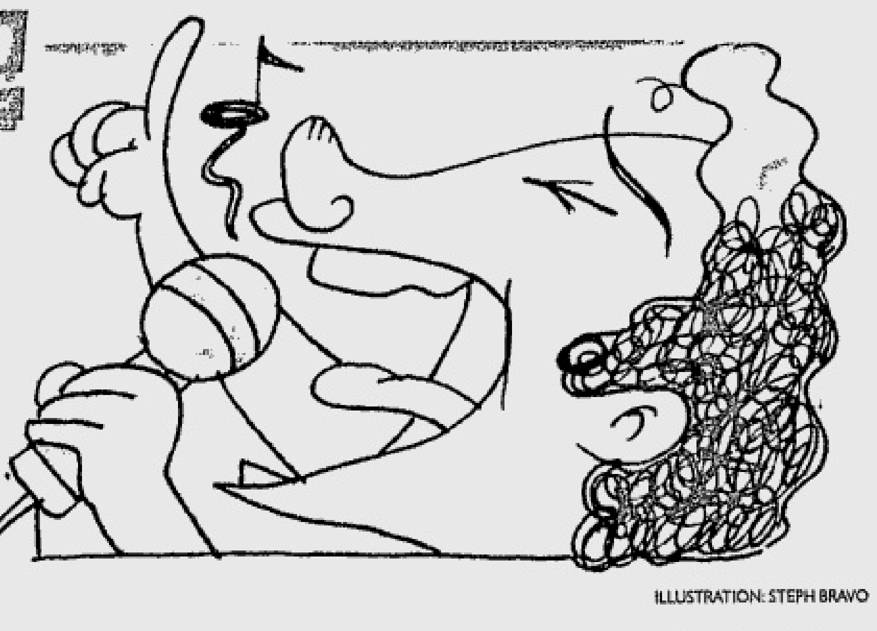


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

By Niño Mark M. Sablan
2bU! Correspondent

MUSICLANDIA'S men make a reappearing act. They look like the men that they are (boy-next-door, ruggedly handsome, badbadbad boys) and sound as if they've totally forgotten about their childhood days. Here's a review of their latest music videos dominating our channels.

"Rock Your Body"

by Justin Timberlake

After crying a river and working it with band-aid boy Nelly, hottie Justin resurfaces with yet another undeniable winner, "Rock Your Body." Boasting of 9,000 bulb lights, the video is plotless and basic, with a rugged-looking and white-clad Justin singing and dancing. The vid is supposedly boring but the amazing editing and Justin's spectacular choreography surprisingly hypnotize you into watching the whole thing. With a string of good, catchy songs and magnificent moves you yourself want to execute inside a bathroom, Justin will surely go farther than most of us expect.

"The Remedy"

by Jason Mraz

Another addition to the list of lads singing, songwriting and strumming is Jason Mraz, who hails from Southern California. Currently making a splash with the single "The Remedy," Jason proves he's not just another drool-worthy face you want to create in your cell phone's picture editor. Give the song 10 seconds (the intro is pretty lengthy) and you'll be tapping your feet (clad in Islander slippers) until the song's last note.

Apart from his undeniably beautiful face, Jason's fashion sense is something that will definitely catch your attention, as proven in the vid of "The Remedy."

Garbed in cut-off slacks, puffy bedroom slippers, a coat with a pin and baseball cap, you wonder where this guy gets his clothes. But no matter how mismatched, eccentric, or uhm, *jologs* his fashion statement is, you can't help but forgive him. Who else can wear green tee and red baseball cap and not make you laugh because Christmas is definitely hundreds of sleep away?

Going back to the video, nothing much happens. He just rides a chicken-filled Mrazda, comes across a boobsy girl who has a brown bag of eggs and slips, and inserts a couple of sunflowers into a soldier's gun.

Last words: More catchy songs and more close-ups please. And maybe a lesson on how his surname is pronounced. (Ma-raz? Em-raz? Uhm, Mwaz???)

"Year 3000"

by Busted

Composed of blokes Charlie, Mattie and James, the latest addition to the neverending list of boy bands is the group Busted, which sounds like the Moffatts, Blink 182 and LFO in a blender. Pretty and pleasant-looking, the video for "Year 3000" sees the boys transported to year 3000 (you guessed it right) where they see their future selves, still as pop stars. They steal the spotlight, make love to their guitars, jump—and all of a sudden, they freeze in the air, turn black and you see "Busted" onscreen. Yawn. Yippee.

"If You're Not The One"

by Daniel Bedingfield

Twenty-two-year-old control freak Daniel made sure he had his hands and feet during the whole process of producing his album "Gotta Get Thru This," wherein he wrote most of the songs, sang and played instruments—in his underpants.

Born in New Zealand, Daniel is back after the title track, with the tear-jerking "If You're Not The One." Beautiful and brilliant, the video is unfortunately not the same case. Without a plot, we just see Mr. Bedingfield standing, sitting down, jumping, falling and staring directly at us. Kinda creepy, and definitely boring. Sure made me want to just close my eyes.

"Come Undone"

by Robbie Williams

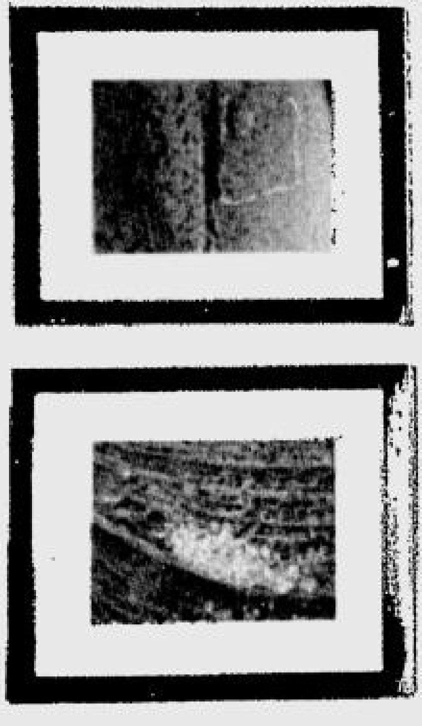
The man has returned, much to the delight of many, and the latest offering is yet another hit, joining the likes of his previous ones "Angel" and "She's The One." The video is vibrant and colorful. It's a lively visual feast that starts with Robbie waking up sandwiched between a couple of supermodels. As he walks out of the house that looks like Tim Yap's, what follows is a flashback of what happened the previous night, which includes lots of booze consumption, physical contact and fistfight.

The vid's highlight is the guest appearance of creepy crawlies: huge bugs, rats, worms and snakes coming out of skirts and mouths. Double yuck.

Other manly music vids on heavy rotation in music channels: "Somewhere I Belong" by Linkin Park (with the special participation of robots and long-legged creatures), "Rise And Fall" by Craig David (with the special participation of Sting), and "Unwell" by Matchbox 20 (with the special participation of a dog and elephant feet).

E-mail the author at katotino@yahoo.com

MUSIC and art fuse at Penguin


MISHKA'S wall of art

Multifaceted young artist

By Amanda Virrey
Contributor

IT was a festive April Fool's Night when Mishka Arellano-Adams' exhibit opened. The Penguin Café was transformed into an art and music festival. The ongoing exhibit, "Myopic Glimpses," features 44 artworks.

The ceremony began with Mishka's verbal demonstration of her work and the lighting of incense to signify peace and good luck. There was also a poetry reading recited by Mishka's mom, Agnes Arellano-Adams. The poem written by Mishka was for the roadie of Razorback, Bitoy, who died of severe complications last month.

The artist also sang songs like "Cry Me a River," "Fever" and "They All Laughed," and was backed up by the country's renowned musicians. The highlight of the event, however, was the eclectic collaboration of musicians who made the crowd dance to samba, bossa nova, blues and jazz. Among the musicians were Billie Bonnevie, Dante Bosch, Jun Claudio, Nino Hernandez, Arnold Casinto, Sammy Asuncion, Louie Talan, Fritz Barth and Deo Arellarno.

Myopic photography

Mishka got the idea of myopic photography while she was fiddling with a camera and zeroed in on a tree trunk. Looking through the magnified lens, she was amazed by the beauty of its minute details. From then on, she decided that she wanted to show everybody "what we never had the time to see." She took shots of a wooden banister, window curtain, an altar at her house, cooked white rice, beach sand, pebbles, and just about anything she could see in full zoom.

Foundation

Growing up with a family of artists motivated Mishka to be an artist herself. Her mom, Agnes Arellano-Adams, is famous for the sculpture of "Three Goddesses" and a pregnant figure called, "Haliya Bathing." She also has works displayed in Africa and Asia. On the other hand, her dad, Michael Adams, used to own "Pinaglabanan Gallery" with her mom in San Juan, which showcased works by various artists.

At the age of three, she began drawing pictures of animated characters on papers, walls and even floors. The first of which was a picture of Mickey Mouse in the garden. She also assisted her mom in sculpting dead trees, clay casting and painting. They would paint different figures on their Volkswagen Combi Van and drive around the country to show their work. With that fresh and lively outlook in life, Mishka was sent to a boarding school in England where she stayed for 8 years.

Future

At 18, Mishka still wants to learn more. She is honing her painting skills and wants to study photography full-time. Just like her concept of myopic photography, Mishka feels that there's so much more to discover and experience in life.

Mishka's works are exhibited at Penguin Café in Malate until today.

TOAST TO ART! Budeths Casinto, percussionist for Pinikpikan and Spy

Mishka's Poem for Bitoy

When you left our world to join the sky
You painted colors in our eyes
And now I stand there in the mountain
Bruised by wind and rain
But I still can't see you here
Through the midst of our pain
So here I am surrounded by the sky
The clouds embrace me till I cannot see
Now I feel blind as the cold seeps into my skin
My spirit ignites and I realize that here you are
You are everywhere
You are the air.

SCRAMBLED Edge and DJ Mei-Lwun

Easter 'G' at Bora with BBC

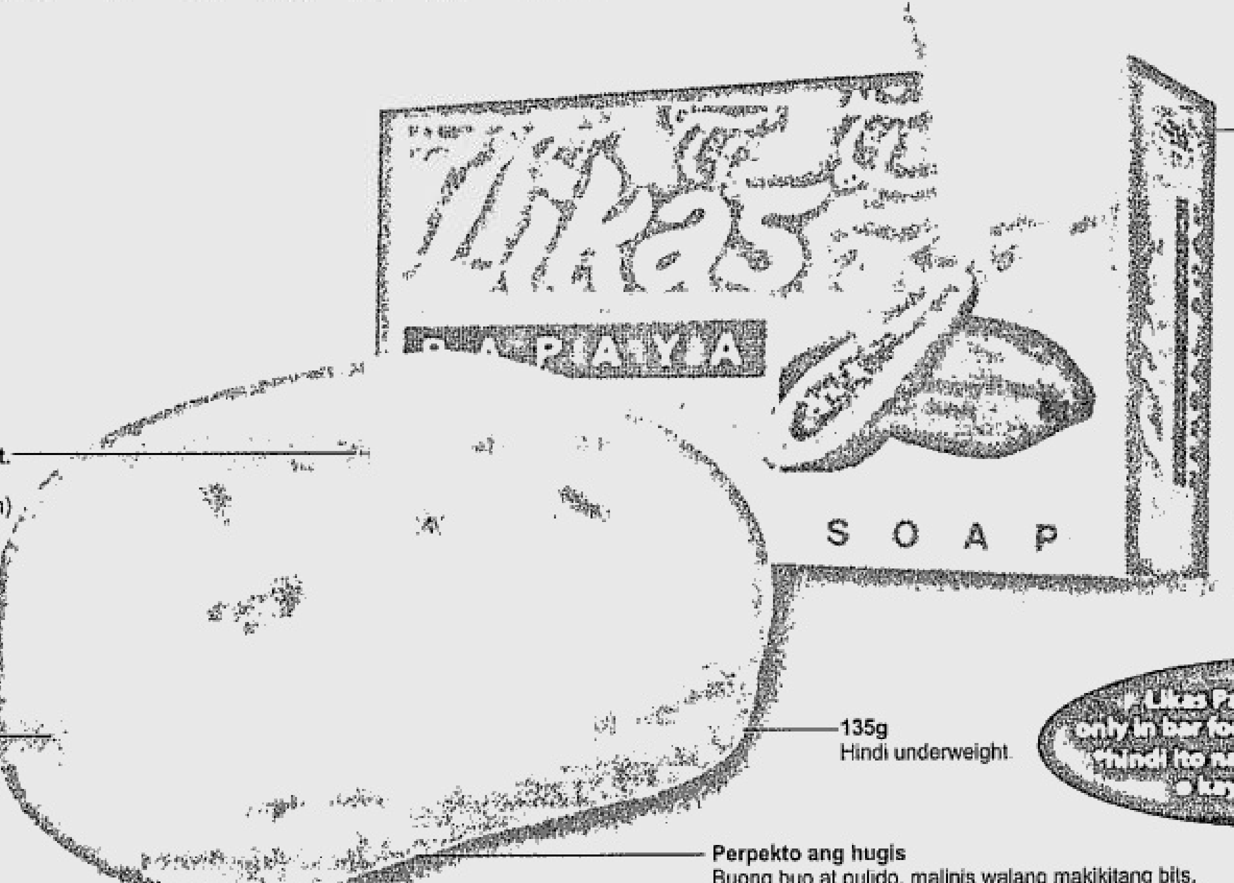
GENTXT, Studio 23 and BBC filled the shores of Boracay island with sunflowers and "G" signs this summer as BBC, or Big Ben Collective, composed of scene mover, DJ Scrambled Edge Pamute, Kara Tolentino and Mike Constantino, popular for their Novalounge series, rocked the scene at Pier 1. Gina Rene and DJ Mei Lwun of Soulstice, San Francisco played alternately with DJ Daniel Magg from Germany and Minus 8 of Switzerland. All in all, it was a truly global dance feat in the shores of our favorite summer destination.

KARA Tolentino and DJ Mei-Lwun of Soulstice

Guidelines in buying Likas®

May Mystica Logo na wala sa iba.

Makikita lamang ang Mystica Logo sa tamang pagsusuri, basahin sa ibaba



Selyado (sealed) Di tulad ng peke madaling buksan.

Pulido ang pagkakaukit. Hindi nagbibitak-bitak. (neatly crafted inscription)

BFAD CR#7541

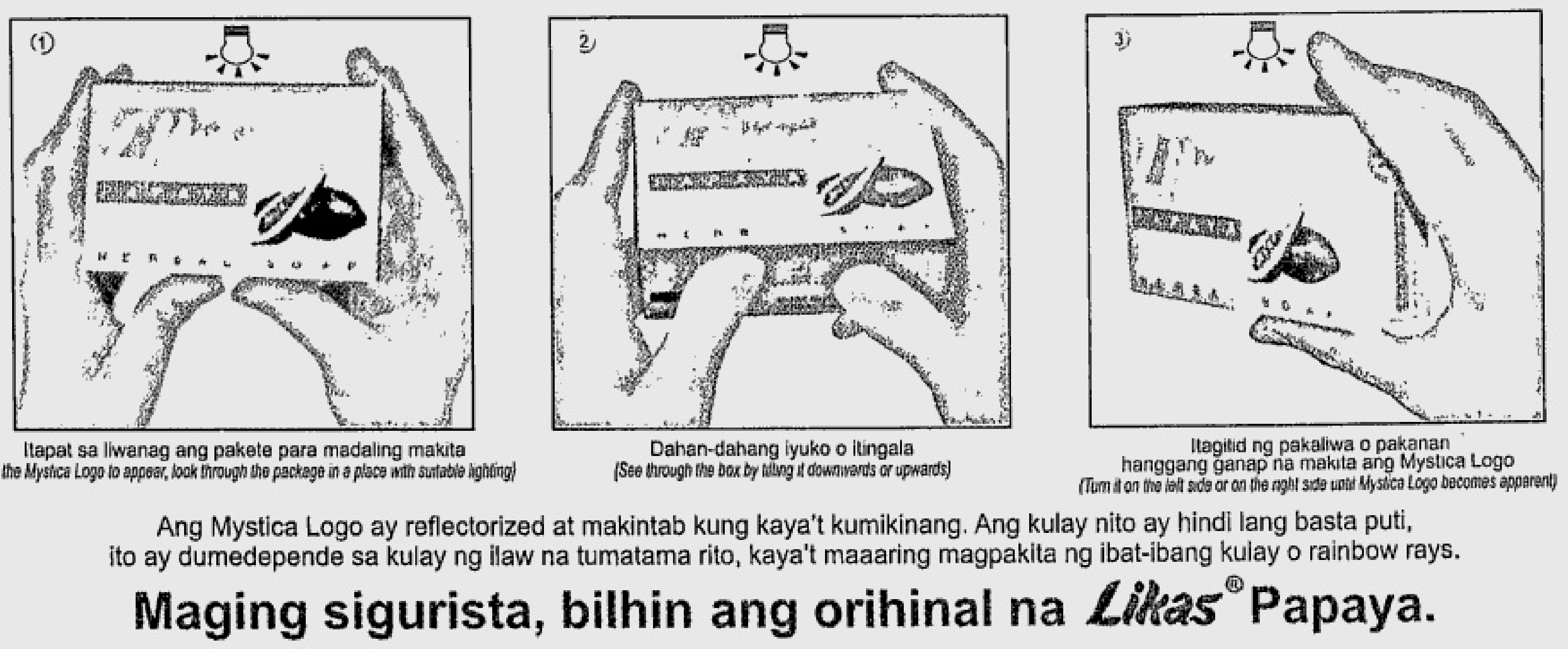
Banayad ang amoy (unscented) Walang kemikal. (all organic & natural)

135g Hindi underweight.

Likas Papaya soap is sold only in bar form and packed in a box. Hindi ito nabibili ng tingi o scrap, o kaya'y sa overruns.

Perpekto ang hugis
Buong buo at pulido, malinis walang makikitang bits, granules o bula sa mismong sabon nito.
(clean, orange, smooth bar with perfectly crafted oval shape)

Tamang pagsuri ng Mystica Logo



Itapat sa liwanag ang pakete para madaling makita
(For the Mystica Logo to appear, look through the package in a place with suitable lighting)

Dahan-dahang iyuko o itingala
(See through the box by tilting it downwards or upwards)

Itagilid ng pakaliwa o pakanan hanggang ganap na makita ang Mystica Logo
(Turn it on the left side or on the right side until Mystica Logo becomes apparent)

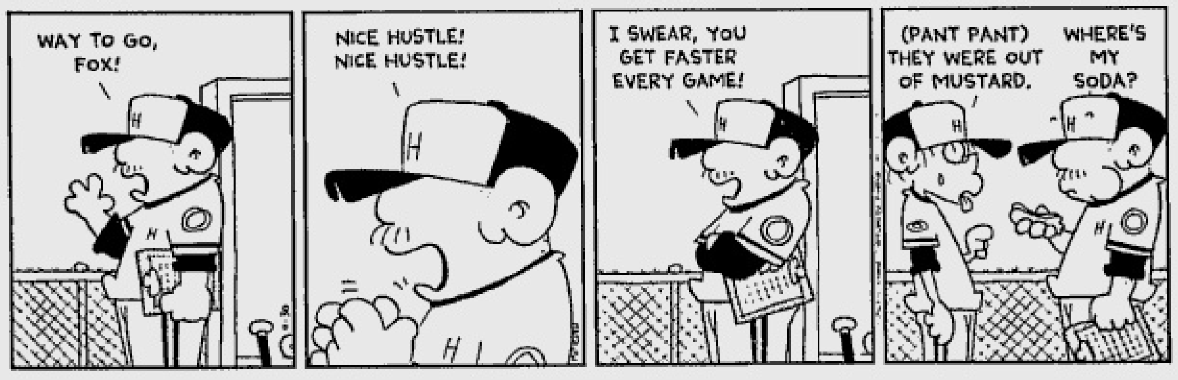
Ang Mystica Logo ay reflectorized at makintab kung kaya't kumikinang. Ang kulay nito ay hindi lang basta puti, ito ay dumedepende sa kulay ng ilaw na tumatama rito, kaya't maaaring magpakita ng ibat-ibang kulay o rainbow rays.

Maging sigurista, bilhin ang orihinal na Likas® Papaya.

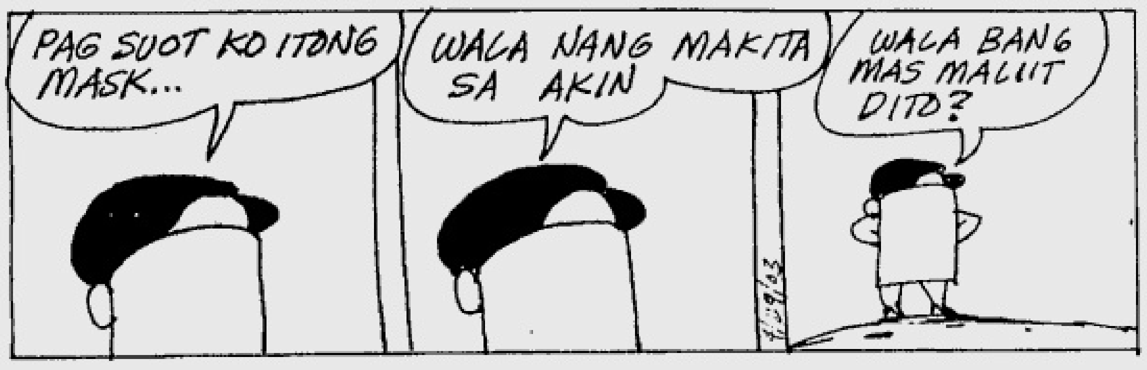
SOLE MANUFACTURER
TRINIDAD COSMETICS LABORATORY, INC.
Quezon City, Philippines, Tel. No.: (632) 939-7884 • Telefax: (632) 939-0276
http://www.likasherbals.com

Ang Original Likas Papaya ay gawang Pinoy, walang imported. Available at all SM, Mercury Drugstore, Pricemart, 7Eleven, Rustans, Landmark, Isetann, Ever Gotesco, Robinson's, Big-R, Mini-stop, Shopwise, Masagana Supermarket, South Supermarket, Sta. Lucia Mall, Plaza Fair, Gion Mart Supermarket, Magic Mall (Urdaneta / Dagupan, Pangasinan) & other leading drugstores, supermarkets & department stores nationwi

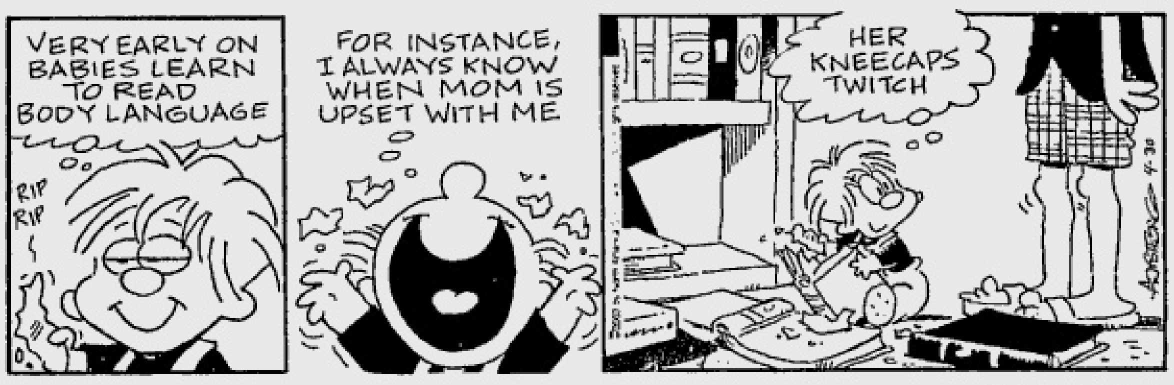
FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND


WAY TO GO, FOX!
NICE HUSTLE! NICE HUSTLE!
I SWEAR, YOU GET FASTER EVERY GAME!
(PANT PANT) THEY WERE OUT OF MUSTARD.
WHERE'S MY SODA?

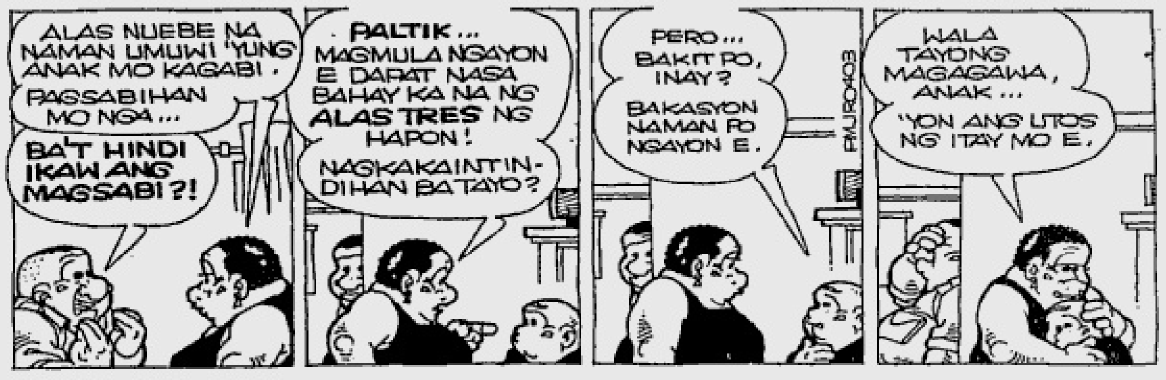
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


PAG SUOT KO ITONG MASK...
WALA NANG MAKITA SA AKIN
WALA BANG MAS MALIIT DITO?

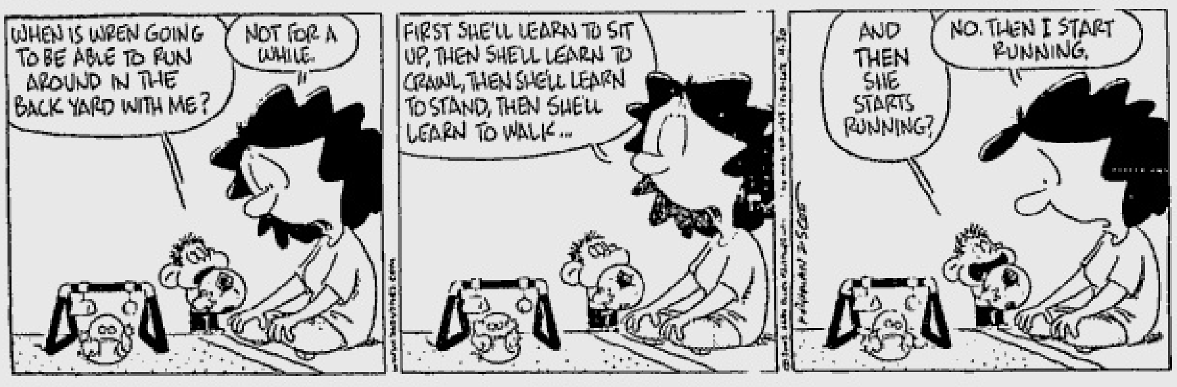
MARVIN BY TOM ARMSTRONG


VERY EARLY ON BABIES LEARN TO READ BODY LANGUAGE
RIP RIP
FOR INSTANCE, I ALWAYS KNOW WHEN MOM IS UPSET WITH ME
HER KNEECAPS TWITCH

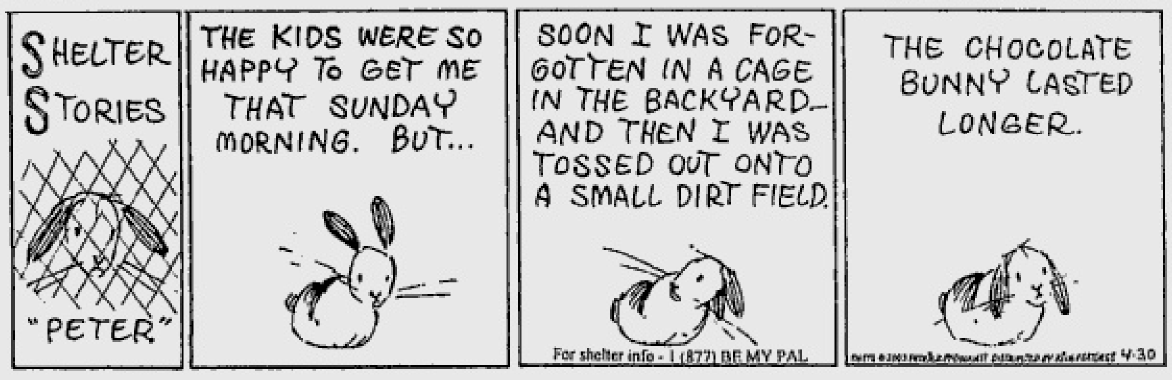
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


ALAS NUEBE NA NAMAN UMUWI 'YUNG ANAK MO KAGABI. PAGSABIHAN MO NGA...
BA'T HINDI IKAW ANG MAGSABI?!
PALTIK... MAGMULA NGAYON E DAPAT NASA BAHAY KA NA NG ALAS TRES NG HAPON!
NAGKAKAINTINDIHAN BA TAYO?
PERO... BAKIT PO, INAY?
BAKASYON NAMAN PO NGAYON E.
WALA TAYONG MAGAGAWA, ANAK...
'YON ANG UTOS NG ITAY MO E.

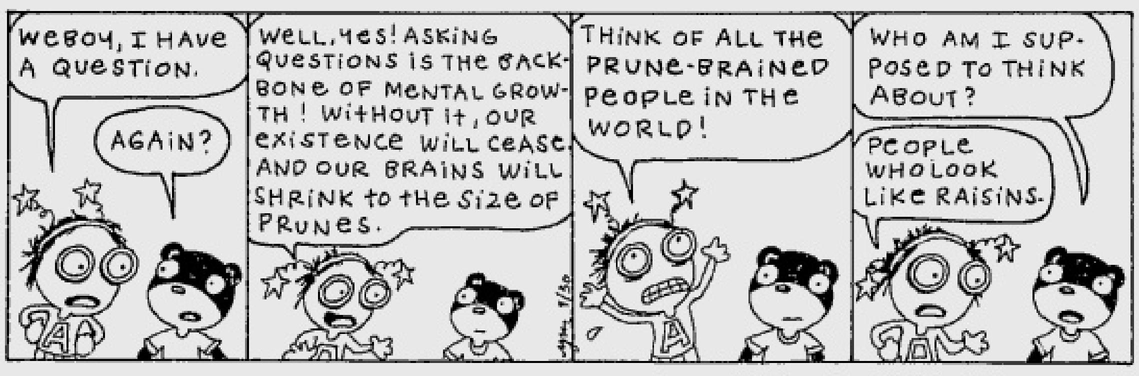
BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


WHEN IS WREN GOING TO BE ABLE TO RUN AROUND IN THE BACK YARD WITH ME?
NOT FOR A WHILE.
FIRST SHE'LL LEARN TO SIT UP, THEN SHE'LL LEARN TO CRAWL, THEN SHE'LL LEARN TO STAND, THEN SHE'LL LEARN TO WALK...
AND THEN SHE STARTS RUNNING?
NO. THEN I START RUNNING.

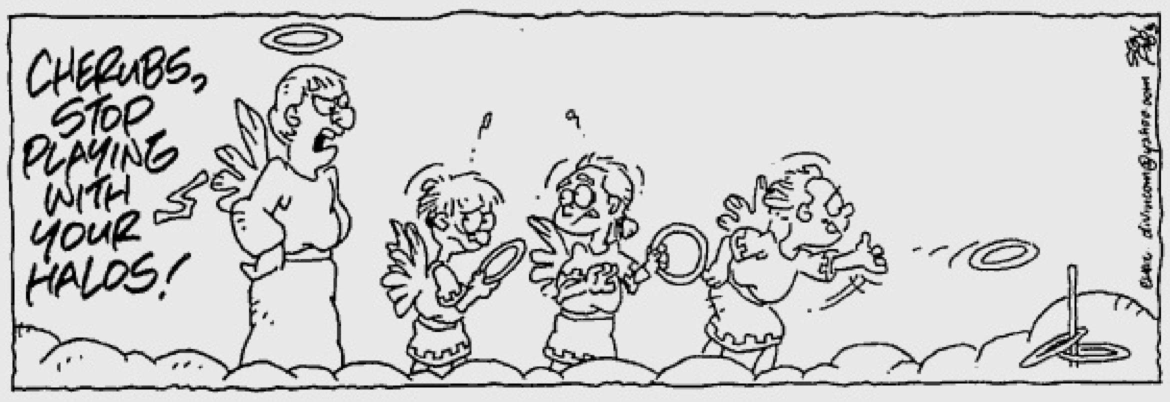
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


SHELTER STORIES
"PETER"
THE KIDS WERE SO HAPPY TO GET ME THAT SUNDAY MORNING. BUT...
SOON I WAS FORGOTTEN IN A CAGE IN THE BACKYARD— AND THEN I WAS TOSSED OUT ONTO A SMALL DIRT FIELD.
For shelter info - 1 (877) BE MY PAL
THE CHOCOLATE BUNNY LASTED LONGER.
4-30

ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WEBOY, I HAVE A QUESTION.
AGAIN?
WELL, YES! ASKING QUESTIONS IS THE BACKBONE OF MENTAL GROWTH! WITHOUT IT, OUR EXISTENCE WILL CEASE AND OUR BRAINS WILL SHRINK TO THE SIZE OF PRUNES.
THINK OF ALL THE PRUNE-BRAINED PEOPLE IN THE WORLD!
WHO AM I SUPPOSED TO THINK ABOUT?
PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE RAISINS.

DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVEN PABALINAS


CHERUBS, STOP PLAYING WITH YOUR HALOS!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are a practical realist who is interested in world events and history. People value your opinions and respect you. Your wit and humor help you make your point with style and emphasis. You are always honest and forthright. You enjoy your creature comforts. Work hard this year for a payoff next year.
Birthdate of: Scott Carpenter, astronaut; Judy Collins, singer; Dann Florek, actor.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Today's New Moon is the perfect time to think about your possessions and what you own. The question is: Do you own them, or do they own you?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): The New Moon is the perfect time to make monthly resolutions. Think how you can improve your closest relationships. (You must be as good for your partner as he or she is for you.)

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Make a tiny resolve to set aside 10 minutes a day to contemplate your life. You're so busy—you're always talking about the past or planning for the future. But where is "now"?

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Are you happy with the friends you have in life? Your friends are important because they influence the choices and decisions you make.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): How can you improve your relations with parents and VIPs? Don't try to prove anything. Instead, cultivate the skillful means to get things done through other people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Recognize your need to expand your world by making a commitment to yourself to learn something new. It can be any subject—but explore your world by gathering new information.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Be clear about where your responsibilities begin and end with respect to taking care of someone or something. You need to know where you stand.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You can learn a lot about yourself now from your closest relationships with others. Consider partners and close friends to be a mirror where your actions are reflected in their eyes.

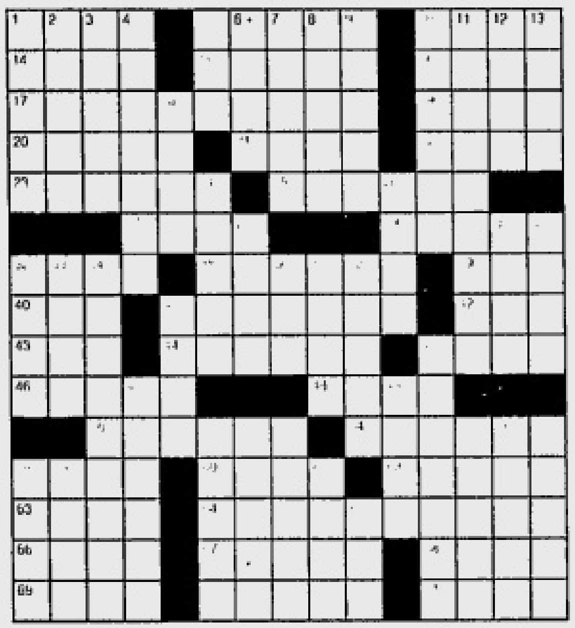
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Think about how you can make your life more efficient. Make an extra effort to get better organized so that you have more spare time for yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): All work and no play makes for a dull life. Think about playful activities and amusing diversions that please you. Indulge yourself and others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Today's New Moon is the perfect opportunity to think about how you can improve your relationships with family members. Similarly, make things at home run more smoothly.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Make an effort to get in contact with people you have not seen lately. (It's important to have people in our lives with whom we have history.)

DAILY CROSSWORD

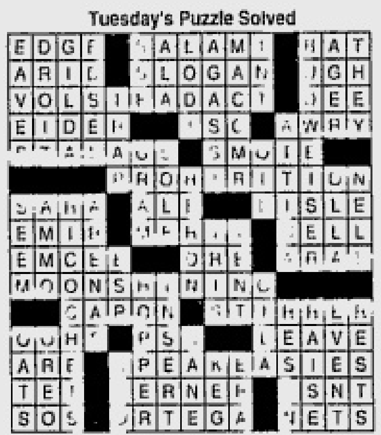


By Norma Steinberg
San Francisco, CA
4/30/03

ACROSS
1 Police alerts: abbr.
5 Tip over
10 Piercing tools
14 Bit of a frolic
15 Current craze
16 Beat it!
17 Brains
19 Snake's warning
20 M. Zola
21 Splinter group
22 Director Preminger
23 Relish-tray item
25 Employ again
27 Childlike person
29 Escritoires
32 Option for Hamlet
35 "The Piano" co-star
39 Opp. of syn.
40 Night hooter
41 Direct route
42 August sign
43 O.J. trial letters
44 Confused
45 Honk
46 De la Hoya of boxing
48 Slugger Sammy
50 Joshed
54 Sing like a bird
58 Pokes
60 Small Great Lake
62 Opera songs
63 Israeli airline
64 Bring lunch to work
66 French she
67 Drive in Beverly Hills
68 No longer here
69 Clique members
70 Bright-eyed
71 Summers in Provence

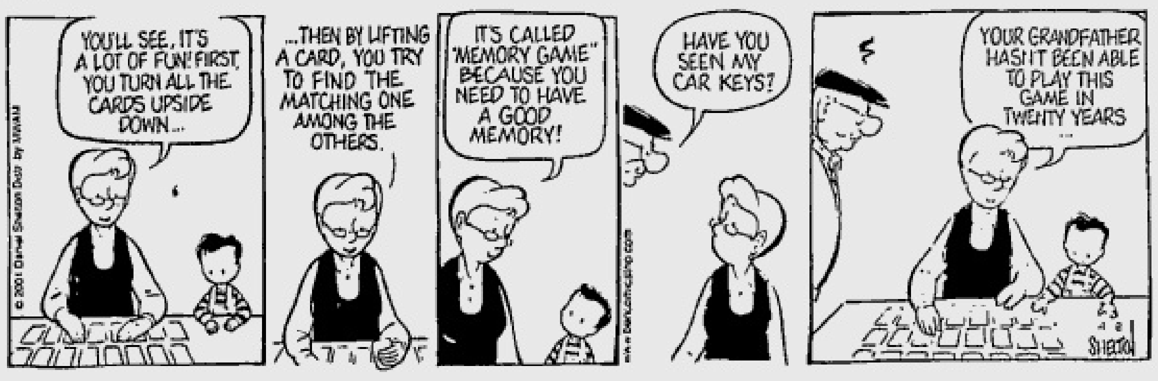
DOWN
1 Writer Horatio
2 Cleveland suburb
3 Interwoven
4 New York City profile
5 Ms. Thurman
6 Butter servings
7 Come in!
8 Female relative
9 Luke and Han's adversary
10 Off the boat
11 Clearance event
12 Missing
13 Fair
18 Steep plateau
24 Went on an extended walk
26 Unoccupied
28 Nourish
30 Leg joint
31 Quit it!
32 Busy person's list
33 Possesses
34 Vote to exclude
36 Under the weather
37 Cravats
38 Provide with a source of
41 Poet
45 Onslaught
47 Theater paths
49 Scandinavian auto
51 Actress Winger
52 First name in swashbuckling
55 Racist
56 Frankie or Cleo
57 Sen. Kefauver
58 Rugged vehicle
59 ___ breve
61 Washstand pitcher
65 "___ as a

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

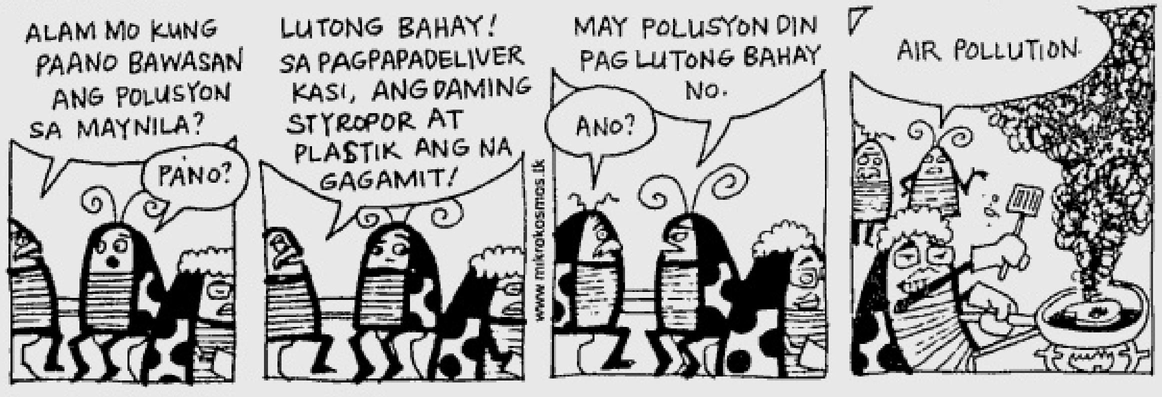


(C)2003 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.
4/30/03

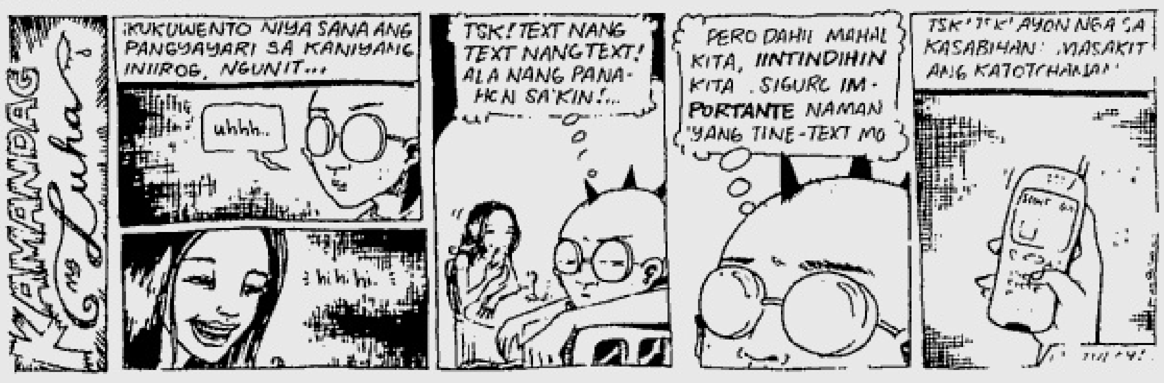
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


YOU'LL SEE, IT'S A LOT OF FUN! FIRST, YOU TURN ALL THE CARDS UPSIDE DOWN...
...THEN BY LIFTING A CARD, YOU TRY TO FIND THE MATCHING ONE AMONG THE OTHERS.
IT'S CALLED "MEMORY GAME" BECAUSE YOU NEED TO HAVE A GOOD MEMORY!
HAVE YOU SEEN MY CAR KEYS?
YOUR GRANDFATHER HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO PLAY THIS GAME IN TWENTY YEARS
SHELTON

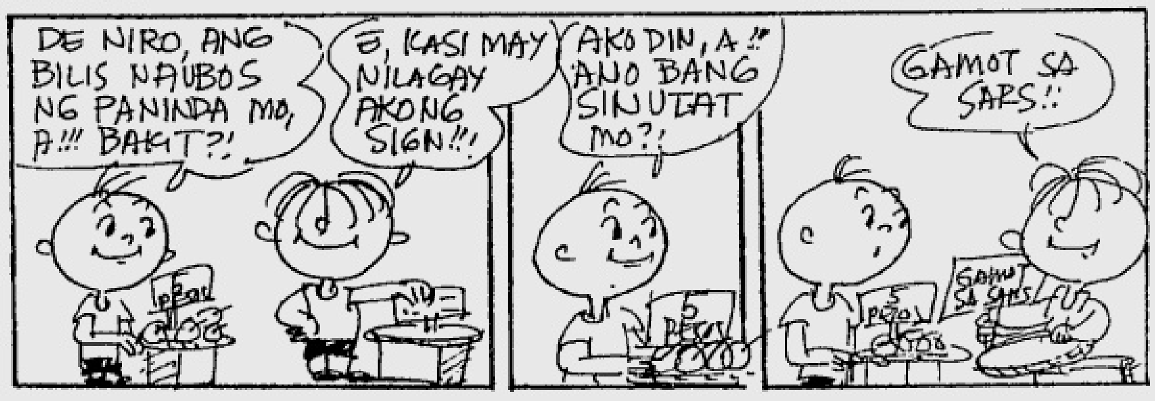
MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


ALAM MO KUNG PAANO BAWASAN ANG POLUSYON SA MAYNILA?
PANO?
LUTONG BAHAY! SA PAGPAPADELIVER KASI, ANG DAMING STYROPOR AT PLASTIK ANG NAGAGAMIT!
www.mikrokosmos.tk
MAY POLUSYON DIN PAG LUTONG BAHAY NO.
ANO?
AIR POLLUTION.

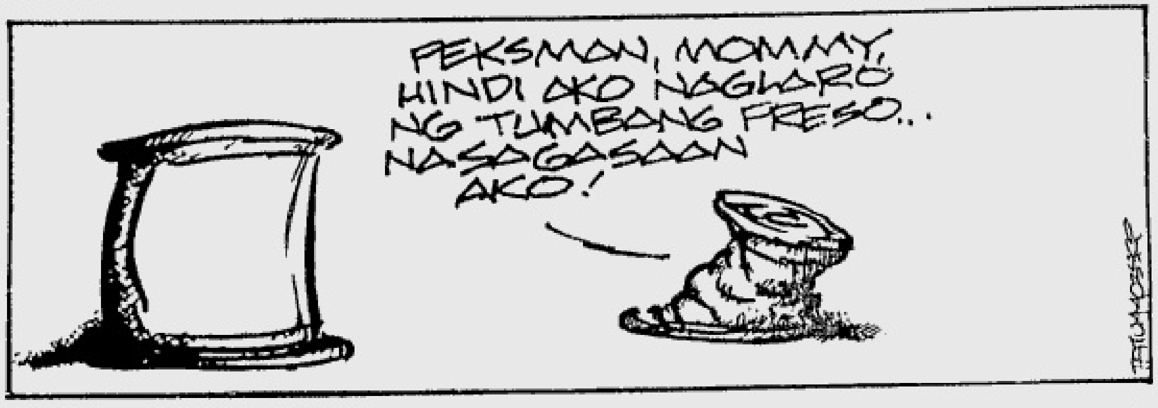
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA


KAMANDAG ng Luha
IKUKUWENTO NIYA SANA ANG PANGYAYARI SA KANIYANG INIIROG. NGUNIT...
uhhh..
hi hi hi
TSK! TEXT NANG TEXT NANG TEXT! ALA NANG PANAHON SA'KIN!...
PERO DAHIL MAHAL KITA, IINTINDIHIN KITA. SIGURO IMPORTANTE NAMAN 'YANG TINE-TEXT MO
TSK! TSK! AYON NGA SA KASABIHAN: MASAKIT ANG KATOTOHANAN!

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DE NIRO, ANG BILIS NAUBOS NG PANINDA MO, A!!! BAKIT?!
E, KASI MAY NILAGAY AKONG SIGN!!!
AKO DIN, A!! ANO BANG SINULAT MO?!
GAMOT SA SARS!!
GAMOT SA SARS
5 PESOS

TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


PEKSMAN, MOMMY, HINDI AKO NAGLARO NG TUMBANG PRESO... NASAGASAAN AKO!

Aries Espinosa, Editor
Len de los Reyes, Account Manager
Alden Joshua Cedo, Graphic Artist

SARS: The unseen enemy

The virus that rocked the world

THE WORLD was hounded by two crises last month which both divided and united the nations of the world: the first being the war in Iraq that saw the clashing of views of heads of states, and the second one was the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Both claimed hundreds of lives.

Although the war in Iraq ended after a few weeks, the battle to at least contain SARS is keeping health officials on their feet. SARS was earlier known as atypical pneumonia. The last time a flu epidemic wiped out millions of people worldwide was in 1918.

But advance technology and the governments' cooperation hopefully will stop the chain reaction-like spread of SARS.

The Philippine government was jolted by the first case of SARS with the death of nursing aide from Canada, Adela Catalon, and her father, Mauricio, this month. And on Monday, Malacañang described the situation of SARS as a national emergency. The Philippines is the ninth country in the world classified as "SARS-infected" with three reported confirmed cases as of this writing. The suspected case in Samar that brought the country's case to four was later found negative.

As of April 28, the World Health Organization listed 5,014 suspected SARS cases, and a confirmed death toll of 330 worldwide.

Is there a cause for panic, or even paranoia? SARS is spreading at a lightning pace. It can put down even the healthiest of adults. The WHO website reported that most patients identified have been previously healthy adults aged 25-70 years old. But the most alarming was the fact that experts had little knowledge about the disease, until weeks ago.

The pressing need to identify the virus that causes SARS had put a team of Canadian scientists to work. In a matter of seven weeks, SARS was named and the virus that causes it is believed to belong to the family of coronavirus. Coronaviruses are the second most common cause of colds and are known to survive in the environment for up to three hours.

Symptoms

Symptoms of SARS include fever greater than 38°C, dry cough, shortness of breath, headache, or sometimes muscular stiffness, loss of appetite, malaise, confusion, rash and diarrhea. Before, these are considered common signs of flu, but at the rate the death toll is going, even a simple cough can be a cause for alarm, or could even draw nervous stares from people.

Quarantine of suspected SARS-infected people, or those who have close contacts with them, is the best option health officials can give the public so far. Travelers who arrive from SARS-infected countries or provinces are required to undergo voluntary quarantine of up to 10 days.

It is believed that the virus spreads easily through close contact with an infected person or is transmitted through objects contaminated by SARS. The duration between exposure and emerging of symptoms is estimated from two to seven days.

Health workers wear facemasks and protective gear when caring for suspected SARS cases.

In an attempt to curb the spread of the virus doctors resorted to using anti-body tests, molecular tests and cell culture to identify the coronavirus in blood samples of suspected cases. This method, however, have been found to be inefficient. To determine if a victim is producing antibodies to fight SARS through blood tests, it will take at least two to three weeks.

So far, there is still no known cure for the disease. All the health officials have are preventive measures. It was earlier reported that it would take 10-15 years before a vaccine can be developed against SARS, but on Monday a US health official said it is only a year away. ***Compiled by Marlet D. Salazar***

"the best prevention of **SARS** is to regularly wash your hands"

Malik Peiris
Chief of Virology
Department of Microbiology
University of Hong Kong

A message of concern for your health from Dial Antibacterial Products.

Dial
ANTIBACTERIAL

Dial
Dial
Dial
Dial
Dial

Exclusively distributed in the Philippines by BRANDWORKS, INC.
Available at all leading supermarkets and department stores.

Where to go in case of SARS infection

ALTHOUGH the government has designated the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) and San Lazaro Hospital to handle suspected SARS cases, below is a list obtained from the Department of Health website, of medical centers and regional hospitals people can go to in the event of infection of SARS.

Metro Manila•
San Lazaro HospitalSan Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila732-3776 to 78; 732-3106711-6966; 711-6979 fax Research Institute for Tropical MedicineAlabang, Muntinlupa City809-7599; 807-2636; 842-2828807-2634; 807-2628 to 32; 842-2245
Region I•
Ilocos Regional Training CenterSan Fernando, La Union(072) 888-5864 Mariano Marcos Memorial Hosp. and Medical CenterBatac, Ilocos Norte(077) 792-3133
Region II•
Veterans Regional HospitalBayombong, Nueva Vizcaya(078) 321-2090 Cagayan Valley Medical CenterTuguegarao, Cagayan(078) 844-1410
Region III•
Jose B. Lingad Memorial General HospitalSan Fernando, Pampanga(045) 961-3921 Dr. Paulino Garcia Memorial Research and Medical CenterCabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija(044) 463-8286
Region IV
Batangas Regional HospitalBatangas City, Batangas
Region V•
Bicol Regional Training and Teaching HospitalLegaspi City, Albay Bicol Medical CenterNaga City, Camarines Sur
Region VI•
Western Visayas Regional HospitalBacolod City, Negros Occidental(034) 433-1591 Western Visayas Medical CenterMandurriao, Iloilo City, Iloilo
Region VII•
Gov. Celestino Gallares Memorial HospitalTagbilaran City, Bohol(038) 411-4831 Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical CenterCebu City, Cebu(032) 253-9891
Region VIII
Eastern Visayas Regional Medical CenterTacloban City, Leyte del Norte
Region IX•
Dr. Jose Rizal Memorial HospitalDapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte • Margosatubig Regional HospitalMargosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur Zamboanga City Medical CenterZamboanga City, Zamboanga del Sur
Region X•
Mayor Hilarion Ramiro Sr. Regional Training and Teaching HospitalOzamis City, Misamis Occidental(088) 521-0022 Northern Mindanao Medical CenterCagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental(088) 728829
Region XI•
Davao Regional HospitalTagum City, Davao del Norte Davao Medical CenterBajada, Davao City(082) 227-2731 Region XII Cotabato Regional and Medical CenterCotabato City, North Cotabato
CAR•
Luis Hora Memorial Regional HospitalAbatan, Bauko, Mt. Province Baguio General Hospital and Medical CenterBaguio City ARMMAmai Pakpak Medical CenterMarawi City, Lanao del Sur
CARAGA•
Caraga Regional HospitalSurigao City, Surigao del Norte(086) 826-2459 Adela Serra Ty Memorial Medical CenterTandag, Surigao del Sur(086) 211-3700

BIOGESIC
FEVERWATCH

FEVER MANAGEMENT IN THE TIME OF PNEUMONIA

What Is Pneumonia?
Pneumonia is a disease that occurs when the lungs get inflamed, usually due to infection. It's a more common problem than most people think. Usually it's a mild disease, but some forms are very dangerous and require a consultation with a doctor. An example is the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or SARS, whose cause and cure have yet to be discovered. About 30 different kinds of germs infect the lungs and cause pneumonia. Infected lungs leak fluids and shed dead cells. This material clogs up air sacs and makes it hard for the lungs to do their job of getting oxygen into the blood. Without enough oxygen, none of the cells in your body work as they should.

Pneumonia can affect just one section of the lung or many sections of the lung. When both lungs are affected, it's called double pneumonia. Pneumonia generally lasts about two weeks. But it may take a month or more for the infected lung or lungs to clear up. Thus, when recovering from pneumonia, even healthy people may feel tired or weak.

"Fever as a symptom of pneumonia should always be managed at the onset"

Causes
Viruses cause about half of all cases of pneumonia. Bacteria are the most common cause of pneumonia in adults over the age of 30. Fungi can also cause pneumonia. Many of these germs are all around us. They usually can't get past a healthy person's natural defenses. That's why pneumonia is most common in elderly people, in cigarette smokers, in alcoholics, and in people suffering from other diseases such as the flu.

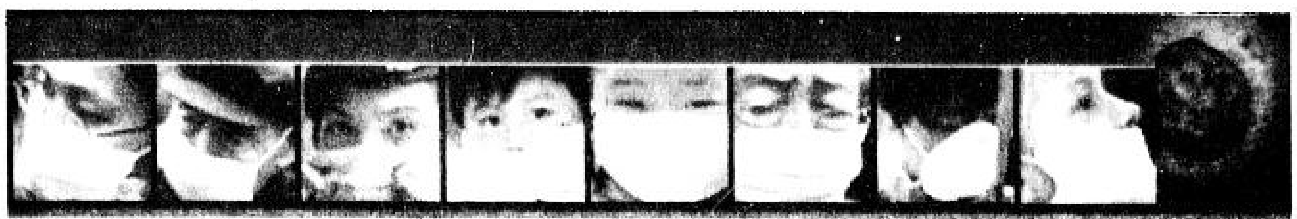
Symptoms
- Viral pneumonia usually comes with a combination of low fever and chills, muscle aches, fatigue, enlarged lymph nodes in the neck, chest pain, sore throat, and coughing. The cough generally brings up only a small amount of mucus.
- Bacterial pneumonia usually comes with a combination of high fever, cough with thick greenish or rust-colored mucus, shortness of breath, rapid breathing, sharp chest pain that is worse with deep breaths, abdominal pain, and severe fatigue. There can be profuse sweating and mental confusion.
- In children, labored and rapid breathing (more than 45 breaths a minute); sudden onset of fever; cough; wheezing; and bluish skin, lips, or fingertips are general signs of pneumonia.
- Mycoplasma pneumonia is often very benign and resolves without any treatment. Symptoms can consist of violent attacks of coughing that bring up only a small amount of mucus. There are chills and fever; some people get nausea or vomiting. Some patients become very weak for up to a month.

Fever as a symptom and why it should be managed at the onset
Fever is a common symptom among the kinds of pneumonia. That's because fever is, by itself, the body's warning signal that there is an infection. It is very important that fever not be ignored so that a disease, whether pneumonia or not, can be detected and further complications be avoided. In the case of pneumonia, the best thing to do is to manage your fever at the first sign.

Managing Fever at the Onset
Whether it's mild or high, you should take Paracetamol like Biogesic to help alleviate your suffering from fever. Drink plenty of fluids and avoid physical and mental stress. It is also advisable to dress in light clothing so that you feel comfortable and your temperature can stabilize. After managing your fever, this does not mean that the rest of the symptoms should be taken lightly.

When to consult a doctor
- Your symptoms indicate you have any form of pneumonia. In many instances, you need immediate treatment to recover and avoid complications.
- Your sharp chest pain does not get better with prescribed treatment; you have increased shortness of breath; or your fingernails, toenails, or skin becomes dark or develop a bluish tinge after diagnosis. Your lungs are not getting enough oxygen and you need medical assistance.
- You cough up blood; you may need additional treatment for a worsening infection.

PARACETAMOL
BIOGESIC

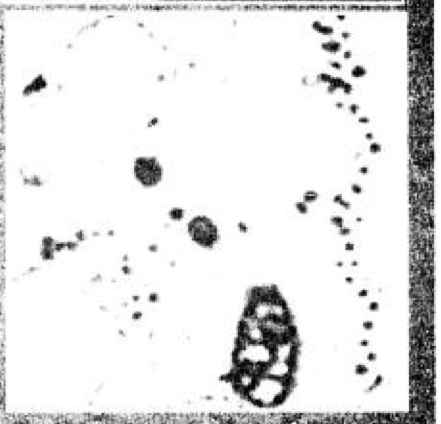


China leads numbers of SARS cases

THE FOLLOWING is a breakdown of confirmed or probable cases worldwide of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and the number of deaths reported from the virus:

	Cases	Deaths
ASIA		
Australia	4	0
China	2,753	122
Hong Kong	1,527	121
India	5	0
Indonesia	2	0
Japan	2	0
Malaysia	6	2
Mongolia	3	0
Philippines	4	2
Singapore	198	19
Taiwan	55	0
Thailand	7	2
Vietnam	63	5
EUROPE		
Britain	6	0
France	5	0
Germany	7	0
Ireland	1	0
Italy	3	0
Romania	1	0
Spain	1	0
Sweden	3	0
Switzerland	1	0
NORTH AMERICA		
Canada	341	19
United States	39	0
SOUTH AMERICA		
Brazil	2	0
AFRICA		
South Africa	1	0
Totals:	4,888	292

Sources: World Health Organization, AFP



It is believed that the virus spreads easily through close contact with an infected person or is transmitted through objects contaminated by SARS. The duration between exposure and emerging of symptoms is estimated from two to seven days

Oplan: Bantay Kalusugan spreading faster than SARS

A young boy having himself chekced in Malanday, MArikina.

THE OPLAN Bantay Kalusugan Mobile van during the morning set-up before the proper Oplan Clinic starts. Location is at Quezon City

VICE Mayor Herbert Bautista and Green Cross AVP for advertising and promotions, Joanna Yap, formally open the Oplan clinic as the doctors and the Oplan boys look on.

THE OPLAN Bantay Kalusugan Boys pose for a picture together with the volunteer doctors and nurses before the start of the Oplan Clinic proper.

WITH the onslaught of SARS in various Asian countries, the cliché "prevention is better than the cure" has never been more real to us Filipinos. The SARS death toll worldwide has caused great fear among Filipinos.

This disease is known to spread through the transfer of respiratory liquids. A common cough and cold cannot be taken lightly anymore. And everywhere you go there is the threat of the SARS virus. From the handrail of a public vehicle, to the elevator, the doorknobs may not be as innocent as it looks.

You are not even sure of the diseases you might be bringing home to your children and other family members.

Members of the private sector have responded to the threat. And Green Cross Inc. has been most active in protecting the health of Filipinos.

On April 21, Green Cross Inc. launched its Oplan: Bantay Kalusugan Handog ng Green Cross at the Quezon City Hall and in Marikina Sports Complex simultaneously. The event is a caravan of two mobile clinics that would conduct medical missions all over Luzon for five months. Each mobile clinic will visit different municipalities daily and give free medical checkups, free medicines, free vitamins and a lot of free Green Cross alcohol.

QC Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista allows himself to be checked as well.

The Oplan Bantay Kalusugan team consists of doctors, nurses and the very distinct Green Cross boys who are there to assist the medical team.

To some extent, Oplan Bantay Kalusugan is a welcome effort as it spreads throughout Luzon, with the hope of spreading faster than the dreaded SARS.

Watch out for the Green Cross mobile clinics in your area:

May:

Matnog, Irosin, Juban, Casiguran, Sorsogon, Guinobatan, Camalig, Daraga, Legaspi, Oas, Ligao, Polangui, Bato, Iriga, Nabua, Baao, Pili, Naga, San Fernando, Libmanan, Laoag, Badoc, Batac, San Nicolas, Sinait, Cabugao, San Juan, Magsingal, Vigan, Sto. Domingo, Bantay, Santa, Narvacan, Sta. Maria, Santiago, Candon, Sta. Lucia, Sta. Cruz, Tagudin.

June:

Del Gallego, Ragay, Lupi, Sipocot, Daet, Labo, Calauag, Lopez, Gumaca, Lucena, Atimonan, Pagbilao, Lucban, Tayabas, Sarinaya, Candelaria, Tiaong, San Pablo City, Alaminos, Pagsanjan, Sta. Cruz, Pila, Bangar, Balaoan, Bacnotan, San Juan, Bauang, San Fernando, Aringay, Agoo, Sto. Tomas, Rosario, Baguio, San Fabian, Mangaldan, Calasiao, Lingayen, Dagupan, Alaminos, San Carlos, Sison, Pozorrubio, Manaoag, Laoac.

July:

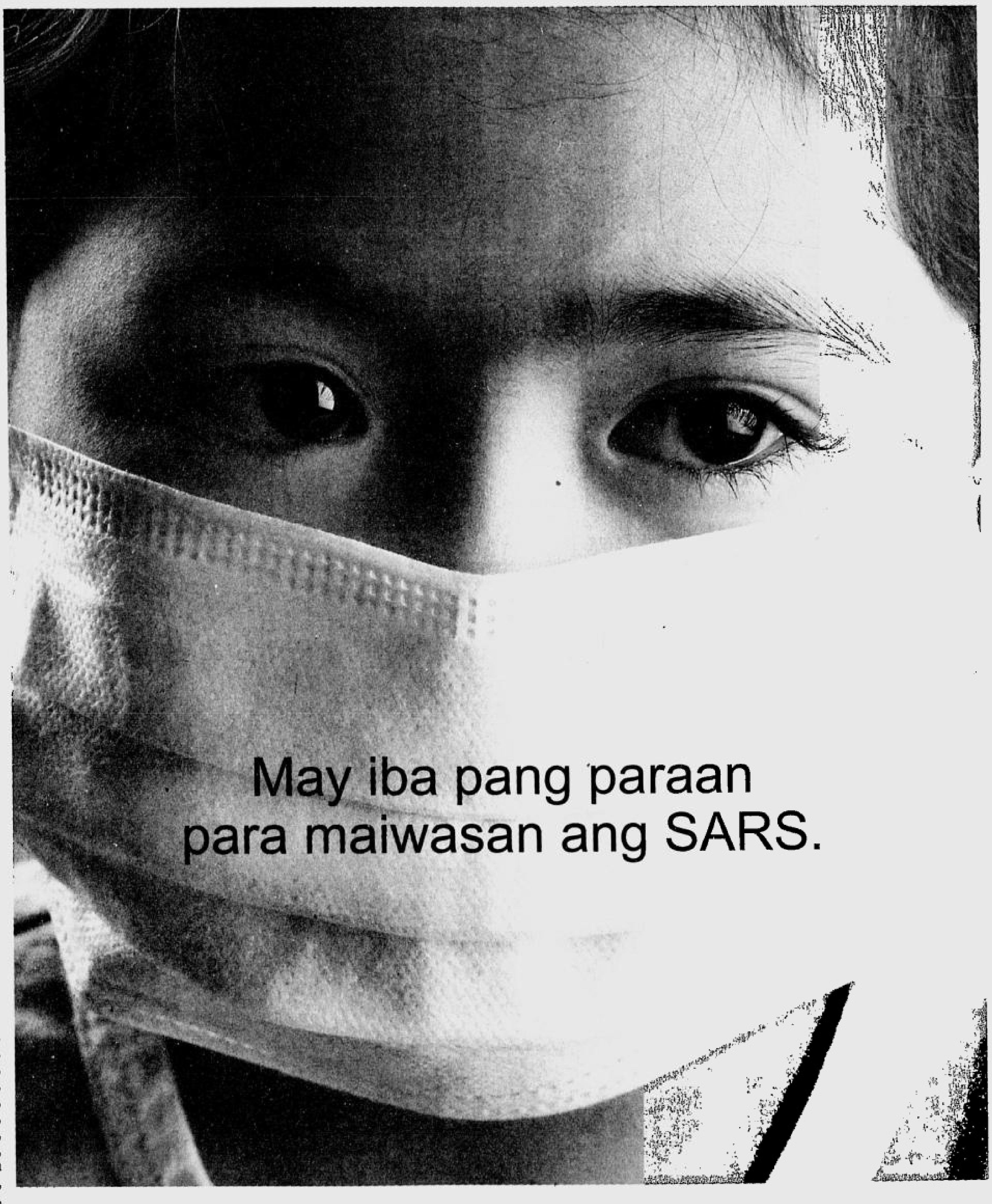
Calauan, Los Banos, Calamba, Cabuyao, Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro, Carmona, Gen. Alvarez, Trece Martires, Dasmarinas, Imus, Bacoor, Cavite, Kawit, Noveleta, Rosario, Tanza, Gen. Trias, Silang, Tagaytay, Nasugbu, Lian, Calatagan, Binalonan, Urdaneta, Villasis, Moncada, Paniqui, Gerona, Capas, Concepcion, Tarlac, Tuguegarao, San Pablo, Cabagan, Tamauini, Ilagan, Naguilian, Cauayan, Alicia, Echague, Santiago, Cordon, Diadi, Solano.

August:

Tuy, Balayan, Calaca, Lemery, Taal, Bauan, Batangas City, San Juan, Rosario, Ibaan, San Jose, Tanauan, Talisay, Sto. Tomas, Montalban, San Mateo, Cainta, Taytay, Angono, Antipolo, Binangonan, Teresa, Morong, Tanauan, Bayombong, Bambang, Aritao, Sta. Fe, Munoz, Talavera, Cabanatuan, Gapan, Sta. Rosa, Zaragoza, La Paz, Bamban, Sta. Cruz, Candelaria, Masinloc, Palauig, Iba, Botolan, Cabangon, San Felipe, San Narciso, San Marcelino, Castillejos.

September:

Obando, Meycauayan, Marilao, Bocaue, SJDM, Sta. Maria, Norzagaray, Angat, San Rafael, San Ildefonso, San Miguel, Baliuag, Pulilan, Plaridel, Guiguinto, Malolos, Paombong, Hagonoy, Calumpit, Apalit, San Simon, San Luis, Candaba, Arayat, Magalang, Subic, Olongapo, Morong, Bagac, Mariveles, Limay, Orion, Pilar, Balanga, Abucay, Samal, Orani, Hermosa, Dinalupihan, Labao, Guagua, Sta. Rita, Bacolor, San Fernando, Mexico, Sta. Ana, Mabalacat, Angeles City.



Green Cross

Mag Green Cross
para mapanatiling malinis ang inyong mga kamay. It kills 99.9% of germs na maaaring magdulot ng sakit

Mag Greenex
para laging malinis ang kusina at banyo. Siguradong patay ang germs kaya ligtas ang buong pamilya sa sakit.

Mag Zonrox
Ayon sa DOH, mabisang pang disinfect ang bleach. Kaya sa Zonrox, magiging germ-free ang mga puting damit pati buong bahay.

Greenex
Zonrox

Alternative medicine to fight SARS

HOMEOPATHY is the original alternative medicine. Developed 200 years ago and still in use worldwide; it is believed to be the ideal medicine for the 21st century for the following reasons:

- It is an approach that uses medicines that stimulate the body's immune and defense system to initiate the healing process.
- It is widely recognized to be safe.
- It is believed to be potentially effective in treating the new types of diseases manifesting in the new millennium like diseases of the immune system not just AIDS, bacterial infections becoming resistant to commonly used antibiotice, viral conditions incurable with conventional therapies, allergies to food, to common substances and to new chemicals, chronic disability afflicting people at younger ages, and increase in mental disease.

Nena Abad Lagdameo, whose family pioneered the practice of homeopathy in the Philippines since the turn of the century, will run a 20-hour course on "Homeopathy: Alternative Medicine for the 21st Century—practicing it in the Philippines" starting Saturday, May 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the training room, Taguig Eastpoint Business Center, East Service Road after the Fort Bonifacio entrance in Taguig.

Succeeding meetings are May 31, June 7 and June 14 (same time). A certificate of attendance will be awarded each participant. Materia Medica and Repertory, homeopathic books, tissue salts and homeopathic remedies will be made available for participants. For brochure detailing course content and other information, please call Melanie Talag, course coordinator and director Age of Aquarius Center for Holistic Healing at tel. No. 726-2338.

Alcogel versus severe germs and bacteria

IF YOU haven't picked up the Alcogel habit by now, you better do soon. With germs all around us, it would take more than a quick washing with soap and water to protect us.

Exclusively manufactured by Scentral Laboratories for Bench, the country's leading apparel and lifestyle brand, Alcogel is an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that kills germs and bacteria more effectively than your everyday soap.

Just apply a small amount on your hands, then rub lightly until your skin absorbs the formulation and voila, you're ready to reach out and touch somebody.

With Alcogel, your hands are kept 99.9 percent germ-free. It contains ethyl alcohol, a highly effective anti-microbial agent that provides broad-spectrum anti-microbial activity against bacteria, including antibiotic-resistant organisms. Also, the formulation includes isopropyl alcohol and benzalkonium chloride, which are known to be good and reliable disinfectants for that all-around germ-killing action.

Formulated with moisturizers, Alcogel increases skin dehydration unlike pain alcohol and leaves no sticky or tacky residue. It has a clean citrus fragrance.

Despite its alcohol content, Alcogel does not dry out the skin. It is formulated with emollients to help condition the skin and reduce dryness and irritation. In fact, studies have shown that alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain moisturizers cause less irritation and dryness than soap and water washing. While it's true that in its pure state alcohol is drying, this drying effect is caused by the loss of natural oils when alcohol is wiped off the skin's surface. Since instant hand sanitizers are not wiped off, the skin oils are not removed. What's more, Alcogel is dermatologically tested to be mild and gentle on the skin.

Variants available include Classic Acogel (P19/50 ml; P29/100 ml), which leaves a fresh clean scent without drying the skin; Alcogel with Vitamin E (P28/50 ml; P45/100 ml) that prevents skin cell damage working from within; and Alcogel with Aloe (P24/50 ml; P39/ 100 ml), which conditions and cleanses the skin and leaves it soft, smooth and clean-smelling.

What's more, Alcogel is of export quality, having met the standards set by the international healthcare community. Alcogel is now available in Hong Kong and guam and soon in Singapore and China.

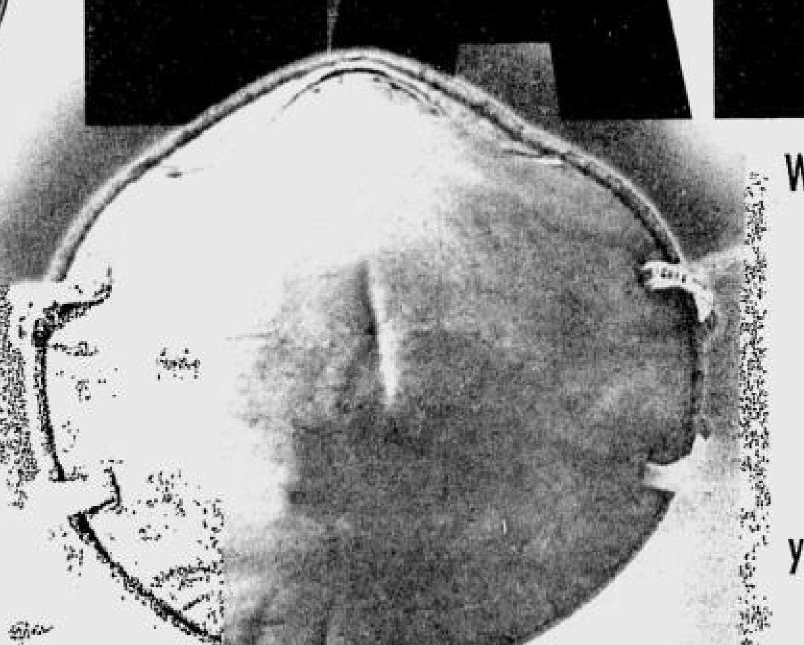
A perfect complementary to Alcogel is the Alcogel Cleanwipes. An anti-bacterial wet tissue, it offers quick relief from dirt and grime anytime, anywhere. As it name suggests, you only have to wipe it onto your hands or whatever body part you wish to be rid of dust, and you're all fresh and cleaned up in a second.

litang SARS Balitang SARS Balitang SARS Balita

KULANG

Halos wala palang silbi ang facial mask
kontra SARS kung sadyang mahina
ang resistensiya ng katawan sa sakit.
Kung ikaw ay sipunin at kapitin ng
ubo at flu, kandidato ka pa rin sa
SARS. Kasi, hindi lang sa hininga
maaaring mahawa.

What's important is building the body's
inner resistance against infectious diseases.
Kaya may PCO-Plus . It has Proanthocyanadin Oligomer, a grape seed extract na
kilala for enhancing the body's immune
system. Take it twice daily to complete
your anti-SARS regimen.



Una sa lahat:
PATIBAYIN ANG RESISTENSYA SA SAKIT

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:
727-3948 ● 727-3768

Available at mercury drug and leading drugstores nationwide

PROANTHOCYANADIN OLIGOMER

PCO-PLUS
PCO-PLUS

Isa laban sa lahat.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Alternative medicine to fight SARS

HOMEOPATHY is the original alternative medicine. Developed 200 years ago and still in use worldwide; it is believed to be the ideal medicine for the 21st century for the following reasons:

- It is an approach that uses medicines that stimulate the body's immune and defense system to initiate the healing process.
- It is widely recognized to be safe.
- It is believed to be potentially effective in treating the new types of diseases manifesting in the new millennium like diseases of the immune system not just AIDS, bacterial infections becoming resistant to commonly used antibiotice, viral conditions incurable with conventional therapies, allergies to food, to common substances and to new chemicals, chronic disability afflicting people at younger ages, and increase in mental disease.

Nena Abad Lagdameo, whose family pioneered the practice of homeopathy in the Philippines since the turn of the century, will run a 20-hour course on "Homeopathy: Alternative Medicine for the 21st Century—practicing it in the Philippines" starting Saturday, May 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the training room, Taguig Eastpoint Business Center, East Service Road after the Fort Bonifacio entrance in Taguig.

Succeeding meetings are May 31, June 7 and June 14 (same time). A certificate of attendance will be awarded each participant. Materia Medica and Repertory, homeopathic books, tissue salts and homeopathic remedies will be made available for participants. For brochure detailing course content and other information, please call Melanie Talag, course coordinator and director Age of Aquarius Center for Holistic Healing at tel. No. 726-2338.

Alcogel versus severe germs and bacteria

IF YOU haven't picked up the Alcogel habit by now, you better do soon. With germs all around us, it would take more than a quick washing with soap and water to protect us.

Exclusively manufactured by Scentral Laboratories for Bench, the country's leading apparel and lifestyle brand, Alcogel is an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that kills germs and bacteria more effectively than your everyday soap.

Just apply a small amount on your hands, then rub lightly until your skin absorbs the formulation and voila, you're ready to reach out and touch somebody.

With Alcogel, your hands are kept 99.9 percent germ-free. It contains ethyl alcohol, a highly effective anti-microbial agent that provides broad-spectrum anti-microbial activity against bacteria, including antibiotic-resistant organisms. Also, the formulation includes isopropyl alcohol and benzalkonium chloride, which are known to be good and reliable disinfectants for that all-around germ-killing action.

Formulated with moisturizers, Alcogel increases skin dehydration unlike pain alcohol and leaves no sticky or tacky residue. It has a clean citrus fragrance.

Despite its alcohol content, Alcogel does not dry out the skin. It is formulated with emollients to help condition the skin and reduce dryness and irritation. In fact, studies have shown that alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain moisturizers cause less irritation and dryness than soap and water washing. While it's true that in its pure state alcohol is drying, this drying effect is caused by the loss of natural oils when alcohol is wiped off the skin's surface. Since instant hand sanitizers are not wiped off, the skin oils are not removed. What's more, Alcogel is dermatologically tested to be mild and gentle on the skin.

Variants available include Classic Acogel (P19/50 ml; P29/100 ml), which leaves a fresh clean scent without drying the skin; Alcogel with Vitamin E (P28/50 ml; P45/100 ml) that prevents skin cell damage working from within; and Alcogel with Aloe (P24/50 ml; P39/ 100 ml), which conditions and cleanses the skin and leaves it soft, smooth and clean-smelling.

What's more, Alcogel is of export quality, having met the standards set by the international healthcare community. Alcogel is now available in Hong Kong and guam and soon in Singapore and China.

A perfect complementary to Alcogel is the Alcogel Cleanwipes. An anti-bacterial wet tissue, it offers quick relief from dirt and grime anytime, anywhere. As it name suggests, you only have to wipe it onto your hands or whatever body part you wish to be rid of dust, and you're all fresh and cleaned up in a second.

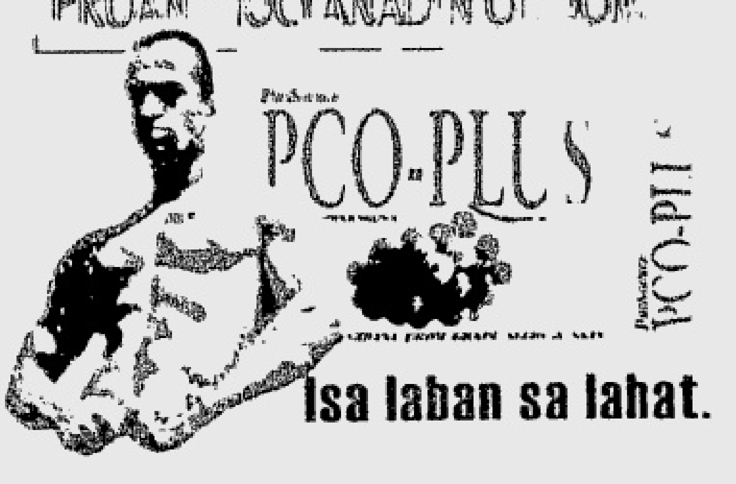
KULANG

Halos wala palang silbi ang facial mask kontra SARS kung sadyang mahina ang resistensiya ng katawan sa sakit. Kung ikaw ay sipunin at kapitin ng ubo at flu, kandidato ka pa rin sa SARS. Kasi, hindi lang sa hininga maaaring mahawa.

What's important is building the body's inner resistance against infectious diseases. Kaya may PCO-Plus. It has Proanthocyanadin Oligomer, a grape seed extract na kilala for enhancing the body's immune system. Take it twice daily to complete your anti-SARS regimen.

Una sa lahat:

PATIBAYIN ANG RESISTENSYA SA SAKIT



Isa laban sa lahat.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:
727-3948 ● 727-3768

Available at mercury drug and leading drugstores nationwide

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Hospital staff most vulnerable to SARS

SINCE mid-February, the World Health Organization has been actively working to confirm reports of outbreaks of a severe form of pneumonia in Vietnam, Hong Kong, China, and Guangdong province in China.

In Vietnam the outbreak began with a single initial case who was hospitalized for treatment of severe, acute respiratory syndrome of unknown origin. He felt unwell during his journey and fell ill shortly after arrival in Hanoi from Shanghai and Hong Kong. Following his admission to the hospital, approximately 20 hospital staff became sick with similar symptoms.

The signs and symptoms of the disease in Hanoi include initial flu-like illness (rapid onset of high fever followed by muscle aches, headache and sore throat). These are the most common symptoms. Early laboratory findings may include thrombocytopenia (low platelet count) and leucopenia (low white blood cell count). In some, but not all cases, this is followed by bilateral pneumonia, in some cases progressing to acute respiratory distress requiring assisted breathing on a respirator. Some patients are recovering but some patients remain critically ill.

The Department of Health Hong Kong had reported on an outbreak of respiratory illness in one of its public hospitals. On March 11, 50 health care workers had been screened and 23 of them were found to have febrile illness. They were admitted to the hospital for observation as a precautionary measure. In this group, eight had developed early chest x-ray signs of pneumonia. Their conditions are stable. Three other health care workers self-presented to hospitals with febrile illness and two of them have chest x-ray signs of pneumonia.

Investigation by Hong Kong public health authorities is ongoing. The Hospital Authority has increased infection control measures to prevent the spread of the disease in the hospital. So far, no link has been found between these cases and the outbreak in Hanoi.

In mid February, the Government of China reported that 305 cases of atypical pneumonia, with five deaths, had occurred in Guangdong province. In two cases that died, chlamydia infection was found. Further investigations of the cause of the outbreak is ongoing. Overall the outbreaks in Hanoi and Hong Kong appear to be confined to the hospital environment. Those at highest risk appear to be staff caring for the patients.

No link has so far been made between these outbreaks of acute respiratory illness in Hanoi and Hong Kong and the outbreak of 'bird flu,' A(H5N1) in Hong Kong reported on Feb. 19. Further investigations continue and laboratory tests on specimens from Vietnam and Hong Kong are being studied by WHO collaborating centers in Japan and the United States.

Until more is known about the cause of these outbreaks, WHO recommends patients with atypical pneumonia who may be related to these outbreaks be isolated with barrier nursing techniques. At the same time, WHO recommends that any suspect cases be reported to national health authorities.

WHO is in close contact with relevant national authorities and has also offered epidemiological, laboratory and clinical support. WHO is working with national authorities to ensure appropriate investigation, reporting and containment of these outbreaks.

WHO sets safety guidelines for handling SARS specimens

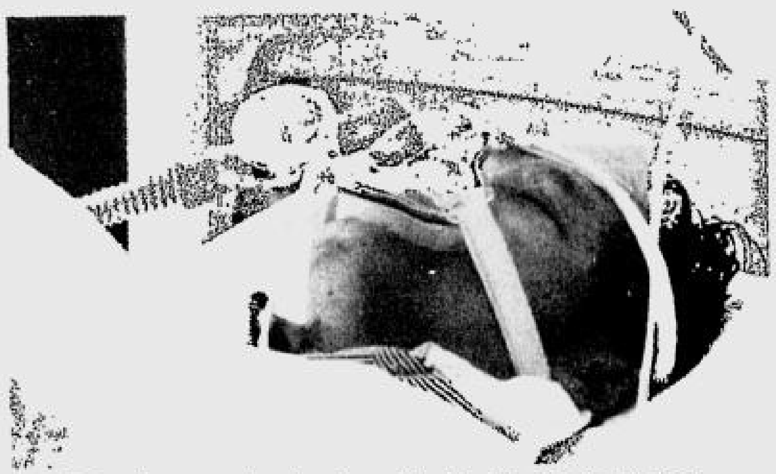
THE FOLLOWING biosafety guidelines have been prepared by WHO for handling clinical specimens associated with SARS.

SARS specimens should be handled according to appropriate biosafety practices in order to avoid laboratory-related infections and spread of disease to close contacts. As the primary route of infection is thought to be via droplets, extreme caution must be exercised to eliminate the unguarded production of aerosols. Detailed information about containment facilities and biosafety practices recommended in this document may be found in the WHO Laboratory Biosafety Manual, 2nd revised edition, available from the WHO web site. According to the latest findings, the etiologic agent responsible for the syndrome is a previously unknown coronavirus, currently called SARS coronavirus, or SARS-CoV. Accordingly, all laboratory work practices should be appropriate for work with viral agents, with particular emphasis on potential spread by droplets, air, and/or contaminated surfaces and objects. No procedure should be undertaken in which there is any doubt about the ability to adequately contain the specimen and prevent the uncontrolled release of the virus.

The following activities may be performed in biosafety level 2 (BSL-2) facilities with appropriate BSL-2 work practices:

- Routine diagnostic testing of serum and blood samples
- Manipulations involving known inactivated (lysed, fixed or otherwise treated) virus particles and/or

WHO/16



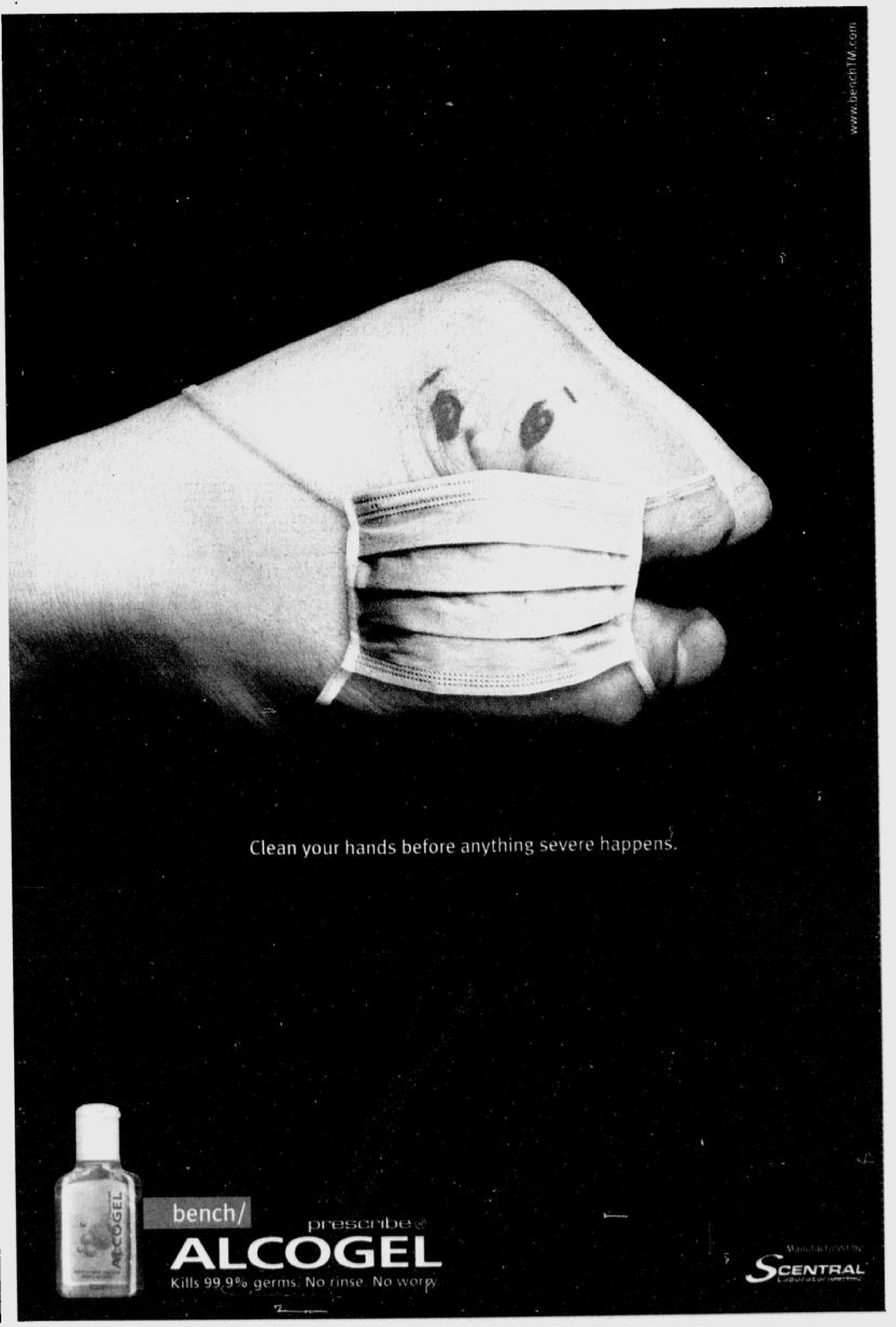
A SARS patient receives treatment behind double layer glass windows and strict quarantine measures at the Beijing Ditan Hospital in Beijing, China, Sunday, April 13, 2003. On April 20, China reported a jump in SARS deaths and a nearly tenfold increase in cases in Beijing as officials canceled the weeklong May Day vacation, trying to stop tens of millions of Chinese from traveling and spreading the virus. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan) (Bild I

DOH's 10 Utos Laban sa SARS

Ironically, if there is one good thing that came out of this dreaded virus, it is that people have become more conscious about their personal hygiene. Below are the 10 things the Department of Health advises people to do to prevent the spread of SARS.

1. Make sure that you have strong body resistance and in a clean bill of health. A visit to the doctor is advisable.
2. Always keep your body, especially the hands, clean.
3. Cover your mouth when you feel like coughing or sneezing especially in public. Avoid spitting in public places.
4. Consult the doctor or any health worker if you suspect you have the symptoms of the virus. Most common symptom is high fever.
5. Inform medical health workers of your condition especially people who traveled from SARS-infected countries.
6. Voluntary quarantine of up to two weeks is required from travelers.
7. Health workers must always keep in the mind the Universal Health and Safety Precautions at all times.
8. Wear facemasks if you suspect you have SARS.
9. People with weak immune system or have low resistance must limit interaction with people especially those who are sick.
10. Keep your house and surroundings clean.

SARS HOTLINES: 741-7048/743-1937
Or
Type SARS space (message) and send to 2960



www.benchTM.com
Clean your hands before anything severe happens.
ALCOGEL
bench/
prescribe
ALCOGEL
Kills 99.9% germs. No rinse. No worry.
Manufactured by
SCENTRAL

SARS multi-country outbreak update

AS OF APRIL 26

Good procedures of infection control were rapidly established (in Vietnam) and eventually proved effective in preventing further spread among hospital staff

Situation in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Vietnam.

A WHO team of six experts, in Shanghai since Monday, has provided a preliminary report of its findings. The team was invited by Shanghai authorities to assess the SARS situation in China's second largest city.

Among its activities, the team examined the SARS surveillance and reporting system, investigated rumors that the case burden might be higher than officially reported, and visited 10 health facilities, three district Centers for Disease Control, and the municipal Center for Disease Control. The team was given free access to all requested data, patient registries, and facilities, which were visited on very short notice.

The team found no evidence of systematic underreporting of cases, and concluded that the level of preparedness and response was good. Reporting of cases appeared to be open, frank, and accurate. Over the past 3 to 4 weeks, authorities designated two hospitals as dedicated to the treatment of SARS patients and set up cough and fever clinics. The team also found a very high level of government commitment to tackle the SARS problem.

Many questions remain about why Shanghai has been spared a SARS outbreak on the scale of that seen in Beijing. Had a larger number of cases occurred, it is not certain whether the systems presently in place would have been able to cope.

Situation in Hong Kong

Health authorities announced 17 new cases, including 3 in health care workers, and 6 deaths, including the youngest SARS fatality in Hong Kong to date. This was a previously healthy 28-year-old man from the Amoy Gardens housing estate cluster. The other deaths occurred in men aged 38, 40, 61, and 70 years, and a 45-year-old woman. Only one of these patients, the 70-year-old man, had a history of chronic disease.

Of the six deaths announced yesterday, three were from the Amoy Gardens cluster.

Authorities are continuing to investigate a small cluster of cases in the Tung Tau housing estate, where six cases have occurred in vertically linked flats. Presently available epidemiological evidence gives no reason to anticipate an outbreak at the estate on the scale of Amoy Gardens cluster, which involved more than 320 residents of a single building.

A WHO team of environmental and "sick building" experts arrived in Hong Kong to assist local experts in the investigation of possible environmental sources of the virus.

No new cases in Vietnam for 18 days

The SARS situation in Viet Nam has remained stable, at 63 cases and 5 deaths, for 18 consecutive days. Active investigation of numerous rumors has failed to detect a new case of SARS throughout this period. If the trend continues, the country will be removed from the list of affected areas on Monday, making Vietnam the first country to contain its SARS outbreak.

WHO officials in Vietnam cautioned against a lapse in the present high state of alert, as the risk persists that a single imported case could seed an outbreak, as happened in February. However, the government showed strong commitment at the highest level from the beginning of the outbreak. Task forces and provincial teams were established and have worked well. Good procedures of infection control were rapidly established and eventually proved effective in preventing further spread among hospital staff.

Should the country experience an imported case, this newly established infrastructure would most likely be effective in preventing another large outbreak.

Update on cases and countries

As of today, a cumulative total of 4836 cases with 293 deaths have occurred in 26 countries. This represents an increase of 190 new cases and 19 deaths compared with yesterday April 25. The new deaths occurred in Canada (3), China (7), Hong Kong (6), the Philippines (1), and Singapore (2).

WHO sets safety guidelines . . .

From page 15

incomplete, non-infectious portions of the viral genome

- Routine examination of mycotic and bacterial cultures.
- Final packaging of specimens for transport to diagnostic laboratories for additional testing.
- Specimens should already be in a sealed, decontaminated primary container

The following precautions are strongly recommended by WHO for work in BSL-2 laboratories with potential SARS specimens:

- Any procedure that may generate aerosols should be performed in a biological safety cabinet.
- Laboratory workers should wear protective equipment, including disposable gloves, solid-front or wrap-around gowns with cuffed sleeves, eye protection and a surgical mask, or full-face shield, according to the risk of aerosols and exposure when performing specific manipulations. When working at a biological safety cabinet, a full face shield is not necessary.
- Centrifugation of human specimens should be performed using sealed centrifuge rotors or sample cups. These rotors or cups should be unloaded in a biological safety cabinet.
- Procedures performed outside of a biological safety cabinet should be performed in a manner that minimizes the risk of exposure to an inadvertent release of the etiologic agent.
- Work surfaces and equipment should be decontaminated after specimens are processed.
- Standard decontamination agents that are effective against lipid-enveloped viruses should be sufficient.
- Biological waste should be treated as outlined in the WHO Laboratory Biosafety Manual, 2nd revised edition which renders viral particles inactive.

In cases where laboratory facilities are marginal, consideration should be given to referral of specimens to a suitably equipped reference laboratory for primary diagnostic tests.

The following activities require BSL-3 facilities and BSL-3 work practices.

- Viral cell culture of the etiologic agent.
- Manipulations involving growth or concentration of the etiologic agent.

When a procedure or process cannot be conducted within a biological safety cabinet, then appropriate combinations of personal protective equipment (e.g., respirators, face shields) and physical containment devices (e.g., centrifuge safety cups or sealed rotors) must be used.

Transport of human specimens

Transport of specimens within national borders should comply with current national regulations.

International air transport of human specimens from suspect or probable SARS cases must follow the current (2003) edition of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations.

- Dangerous goods index
- Consignment of diagnostic specimens 2003

Current IATA regulations (2003) allow specimens known or suspected of containing the SARS agent to be transported as UN 3373 Diagnostic Specimens when they are transported for diagnostic or investigational purposes.

Specimens transported for any other purposes must be transported as UN 2814, and marked as: Infectious substance, affecting humans (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus).

Cultures prepared for the deliberate generation of pathogens may not be transported as diagnostic specimens, but as UN 2814, Infectious Substance, affecting humans (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus).

All specimens to be transported (UN 3373 or UN 2814) must be packaged in triple ackaging consisting of three packaging layers:

UN 3373, Diagnostic Specimens, shall be packed in good quality packaging, which shall be strong enough to withstand the shocks and loads normally encountered during transport. Packaging shall be constructed and closed so as to prevent any loss of contents that might be caused under normal conditions of transport, by vibration or by changes in temperature, humidity or pressure.

Primary receptacles shall be packed in secondary packaging in such a way that, under normal conditions of transport, they cannot break, be punctured or leak their contents into the secondary packaging. Secondary packaging shall be placed in a final outer package with suitable cushioning material. Any leakage of the contents shall not substantially impair the protective properties of the cushioning material or of the outer packaging.

For liquids

The primary receptacle(s) shall be leak proof and shall not contain more than 500 ml. There shall be absorbent material placed between the primary receptacle and the secondary packaging; if several fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated so as to prevent contact between them. The absorbent material shall be in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents of the primary receptacles and there shall be a secondary packaging, which shall be leak proof. The primary receptacle or the secondary packaging shall be capable of withstanding without leakage an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa (0.95 bar). The outer packaging shall not contain more than 4 liters.

For solids

The primary receptacle(s) shall be siftproof and shall not contain more than 500g. If several fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated so as to prevent contact between them and there shall be a secondary packaging which shall be leak proof. The outer packaging shall not contain more than 4 kg.

For air transport, the smallest overall external dimension of a completed package must be at least 10 mm.

Packaging must conform to certain performance standards.

For further information about definitions, packaging requirements, markings and labels, accompanying documentation, and refrigerants, please refer to the competent authority, current IATA shipping guidelines, commercial packaging suppliers, or available courier companies. (From www.who.int)

What is SARS and what are its symptoms?

SARS is the acronym for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Outbreaks have been reported in Asia, North America, and Europe. The incubation period is usually two to seven days, but have been as long as 10 days in a few cases. SARS usually begins with a fever a temperature higher than 100.4°F (higher than 38.0°C). In addition to the fever, symptoms may include:

- headache
- chills
- body aches
- general feeling of discomfort
- mild respiratory symptoms at the outset
- after three to seven days, SARS patients may develop a dry, nonproductive cough possibly accompanied by or progressing to the point where insufficient oxygen is getting to the blood. In 10 to 20 percent of cases, patients will require mechanical ventilation

What causes SARS?

Although other viruses are still under investigation as the possible cause of SARS, researchers at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other laboratories have isolated a formerly unknown coronavirus from the tissues of SARS patients. Coronaviruses are a common cause of upper respiratory illness and can survive in the environment for up to three hours.

How is SARS spread?

According to the CDC, "The principal way SARS appears to be spread is through droplet transmission; namely, when someone sick with SARS coughs or sneezes droplets into the air and someone else breathes them in. It is possible that SARS can be transmitted more broadly through the air or from objects that have become contaminated ... It is possible that SARS could be spread when a person touches a contaminated object or surface; however, how often this might happen, or if it happens at all, is not known at this time. Previously identified coronaviruses (scientists have reported that a new

SARS/18

Before you leave...

IF YOU decide to go ahead with your travel to an area with SARS, keep the following guidelines in mind.

- Assemble a travel health kit containing basic first aid and medical supplies. Be sure to include a thermometer, household disinfectant, a supply of surgical masks and disposable gloves (for use if you or someone you are traveling with becomes ill with SARS), and alcohol-based hand rubs for hand hygiene.
- Inform yourself and others who may be traveling with you about SARS. For information about this illness, see the Center for Disease Control's SARS website.
- Be sure you are up to date with all your shots, and see your health-care provider at least 4 to 6 weeks before travel to get any additional shots or information you may need. For information on CDC health recommendations for international travel, see CDC's Travelers' Health site.
- You may wish to check your health insurance plan or get additional insurance that covers medical evacuation in the event of illness.
- Identify in-country health-care resources in advance of your trip.

While you are in an area with SARS:

- To protect against SARS infection, wash your hands frequently.
- To minimize the possibility of infection, you may wish to avoid close contact with large numbers of people as much as possible. CDC does not recommend the routine use of masks or other personal protective equipment while in public areas.

If you think you have SARS:

- If you become ill with fever and respiratory symptoms (for example, cough or shortness of breath), a visit to a health-care provider is strongly recommended. Tell the provider about your symptoms prior to going to the office or emergency room so arrangements can be made, if necessary, to prevent transmission to others in the health-care setting. Do not travel while sick and limit your contact with others as much as possible to help prevent the spread of any infectious illness you may have.
- The person who is ill should cover their mouth and nose with a facial tissue when coughing or sneezing. If possible, they should wear a surgical mask during close contact with healthy people to prevent spread of infectious droplets. If the sick person is unable to wear a surgical mask, other persons should wear surgical masks when in close contact with the person who is ill.
- Use of disposable gloves should be considered for any direct contact with body fluids of a person with SARS. However, gloves are not intended to replace proper hand hygiene. Immediately after activities involving contact with body fluids, gloves should be removed and discarded and hands should be cleaned. Gloves must never be washed or reused.
- All close contacts staying with a person with SARS should carefully follow recommendations for hand hygiene (e.g., frequent hand washing or use of alcohol-based hand rubs), particularly after contact with body fluids (e.g., respiratory secretions, urine, or feces).
- People with SARS should avoid sharing eating utensils, towels, and bedding with others, although these items can be used by others after routine cleaning, such as washing or laundering with soap and hot water.
- Environmental surfaces (e.g., toilets, sinks) soiled by body fluids should be cleaned with a household disinfectant according to manufacturer's instructions; gloves should be worn during this activity. Wash hands afterwards and throw the gloves away.
- Other close contacts staying with a person with SARS do not need to restrict their outside activities unless they develop symptoms of SARS, such as a fever or respiratory illness.

After your return:

Persons returning from one of the affected areas should monitor their health for 10 days. Any family member who becomes ill with fever or respiratory symptoms during this period should consult a healthcare provider and tell him or her about their recent travel. Tell the provider about your symptoms prior to going to the office or emergency room so arrangements can be made, if necessary, to prevent transmission to others in the health-care setting.

Close contacts of person with SARS who develop fever or respiratory symptoms should be evaluated by a health-care provider. Before the evaluation, health-care providers should be informed that the individual is a close contact of a person with SARS. These persons with symptoms of SARS should follow the same precautions recommended for people with SARS.

Q & A with Dr. M.P. Macapinlac, Ph.D.

SEVERE Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is a new viral infection contaminating the world over. Originating from China's Guandong province, this respiratory illness has infected an estimated 4836 individuals, with a 4 percent death toll of 293. Majority of the casualties have been the elderly; those with chronic diseases or a combination of both.

As of late, there is no known cure. In the absence of specialized and effective drugs, the protection and survival against viral infections depend on the adequacy of the body's natural defense mechanisms. Dr. M.P. Macapinlac, Ph.D explains how prevention is still the best weapon against this atypical pneumonia.

Q: What preventive measures should be made against SARS?

A: It is imperative that we strengthen our body's immune system. Vitamin C is an important and valuable source in building our body's resistance. It inhibits the growth of viruses and is therefore crucial in the treatment of viral diseases. Vitamin C also stimulates macrophage functions, increases the activity of natural killer (NK) cells, and enhances a host of bodily functions which enable our body to combat viral diseases and infections.

Multivitamin Enervon C has 500 mg of Vitamin C. Its disease-fighting effects are reinforced by the presence of 800 mg of B Complex vitamins B6, folic acid, B12 and riboflavin, which are also needed to boost our immune system. These B vitamins help in the production of antibodies and the release of energy. A recommended daily dose of 600 mg of Multivitamin Enervon C plus exercise, ensure a strong and healthy, SARS-resistant body.

SARS . . .

From page 16

coronavirus may be the cause of SARS) have been shown to survive in the environment for as long as 3 hours. To reduce the overall risk for infection by touching contaminated objects and surfaces, CDC recommends that people wash their hands thoroughly and often with soap and water."

What is the treatment for SARS?

The CDC-recommended treatment regimen includes antibiotics to treat bacterial agents known to cause atypical pneumonia, antiviral agents such as ribavirin and oseltamivir. Additionally, steroids have been administered either intravenously or orally in combination with ribavirin and other antimicrobials. These are the same treatments that are recommended for patients who have developed atypical pneumonia after exposure to it from another patient as opposed to the pneumonia developing from a more typical respiratory illness that progressed to pneumonia.

Although several such treatment regimens have been employed for SARS patients, there is not yet sufficient information to know how effective they are.

Preventing SARS infection

The World Health Organization (WHO) so far lists around 25 countries as affected by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), gathering more than 4,000 victims, and more than 250 deaths worldwide. SARS is indeed infectious, and everybody should take preventive measures to avoid contracting its deadly virus.

The SARS virus is believed to be contracted through droplets - by direct physical contact with infected persons or through contaminated objects. Droplets are vapor that come out of the mouth when a person coughs, sneezes, or by merely talking.

The Department of Health and health experts worldwide recommend the following to avoid SARS infection:

Hand sanitation. Make it a habit to wash hands frequently using alcohol-based hand rubs especially after contact from another person who might have sneezed or coughed. Disinfect hands with 70% Isopropyl Alcohol. A clinical study shows 70% Isopropyl Alcohol can kill disease-causing germs including coronavirus, a virus which can cause the common cold. A strain of coronavirus is currently being considered as the main cause of SARS.

Hand cover. Disposable gloves can prevent contact with the virus especially for health workers. However, this should not replace hand washing and disinfection. These gloves must be disposed properly and hands must be washed and disinfected after use.

Nose and mouth cover. When sneezing or coughing, cover the mouth and nose with facial tissue. SARS patients should also wear clean masks with filter to prevent spreading droplets. Uninfected individuals are also advised to wear masks especially when in close contact with a SARS patient.

Outdoor exposure. Avoid crowded places. In case this cannot be avoided, disinfect hands immediately after exposure.

Healthy lifestyle. Some tips on how to strengthen one's resistance: Maintain a balanced diet, take Vitamin C regularly, exercise and refrain from smoking.

Don't get trapped in this mystery called SARS. You can fight it and get yourself and your loved ones protected.

For inquiries, call DOH IWAS SARS Hotline: 741-7048 or 743-1937 or text: 0916-4665823.

BAND-AID®
supports the
IWAS
SARS
of the
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

S.A.R.S.
IWAS
150 mL
Johnson's
ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL
BAND-AID ALCOHOL
70% SOLUTION
DISINFECTANT
ANTISEPTIC
According to a World Health Organization (WHO) study, the coronavirus may be the cause of S.A.R.S.*
Disinfect with BAND-AID® 70% Isopropyl Alcohol.
Kills 99.99% of disease-causing germs™.
*For more information, visit: www.who.int

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Before you leave...

IF YOU decide to go ahead with your travel to an area with SARS, keep the following guidelines in mind.

- Assemble a travel health kit containing basic first aid and medical supplies. Be sure to include a thermometer, household disinfectant, a supply of surgical masks and disposable gloves (for use if you or someone you are traveling with becomes ill with SARS), and alcohol-based hand rubs for hand hygiene.
- Inform yourself and others who may be traveling with you about SARS. For information about this illness, see the Center for Disease Control's SARS website.
- Be sure you are up to date with all your shots, and see your health-care provider at least 4 to 6 weeks before travel to get any additional shots or information you may need. For information on CDC health recommendations for international travel, see CDC's Travelers' Health site.
- You may wish to check your health insurance plan or get additional insurance that covers medical evacuation in the event of illness.
- Identify in-country health-care resources in advance of your trip.

While you are in an area with SARS:

- To protect against SARS infection, wash your hands frequently.
- To minimize the possibility of infection, you may wish to avoid close contact with large numbers of people as much as possible. CDC does not recommend the routine use of masks or other personal protective equipment while in public areas.

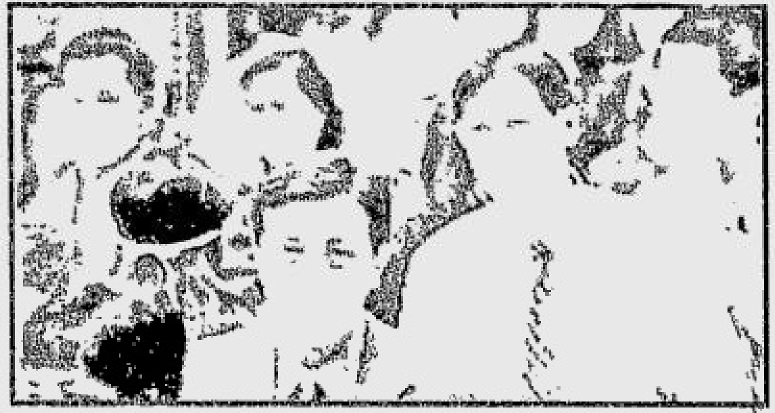
If you think you have SARS:

- If you become ill with fever and respiratory symptoms (for example, cough or shortness of breath), a visit to a health-care provider is strongly recommended. Tell the provider about your symptoms prior to going to the office or emergency room so arrangements can be made, if necessary, to prevent transmission to others in the health-care setting. Do not travel while sick and limit your contact with others as much as possible to help prevent the spread of any infectious illness you may have.
- The person who is ill should cover their mouth and nose with a facial tissue when coughing or sneezing. If possible, they should wear a surgical mask during close contact with healthy people to prevent spread of infectious droplets. If the sick person is unable to wear a surgical mask, other persons should wear surgical masks when in close contact with the person who is ill.
- Use of disposable gloves should be considered for any direct contact with body fluids of a person with SARS. However, gloves are not intended to replace proper hand hygiene. Immediately after activities involving contact with body fluids, gloves should be removed and discarded and hands should be cleaned. Gloves must never be washed or reused.
- All close contacts staying with a person with SARS should carefully follow recommendations for hand hygiene (e.g., frequent hand washing or use of alcohol-based hand rubs), particularly after contact with body fluids (e.g. respiratory secretions, urine or feces).
- People with SARS should avoid sharing eating utensils, towels, and bedding with others, although these items can be used by others after routine cleaning, such as washing or laundering with soap and hot water.
- Environmental surfaces (e.g. toilets, sinks) soiled by body fluids should be cleaned with a household disinfectant according to manufacturer's instructions; gloves should be worn during this activity. Wash hands afterwards and throw the gloves away.
- Other close contacts staying with a person with SARS do not need to restrict their outside activities unless they develop symptoms of SARS, such as a fever or respiratory illness.

After your return:

Persons returning from one of the affected areas should monitor their health for 10 days. Any family member who becomes ill with fever or respiratory symptoms during this period should consult a healthcare provider and tell him or her about their recent travel. Tell the provider about your symptoms prior to going to the office or emergency room so arrangements can be made, if necessary, to prevent transmission to others in the health-care setting.

Close contacts of persons with SARS who develop fever or respiratory symptoms should be evaluated by a health-care provider. Before the evaluation health-care providers should be informed the individual [illegible] contact [illegible] SARS. These persons [illegible] with symptoms of SARS [illegible] follow the same [illegible] tions recommended for people with SARS.



Q & A with Dr. M.P. Macapinlac, Ph.D.

SEVERE Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) [illegible] new viral infection contaminating [illegible] Originating [illegible] China's Guandong prov[illegible] [illegible] 483 [illegible] Maj[illegible] have been the elderly [illegible]

Q: [illegible]

A: [illegible]

[illegible] immune system. Vitamin C is an important and available source in building our [illegible] resistance. It inhibits the [illegible] of viruses and is therefore crucial in the [illegible] Vi[illegible] stimulate [illegible] increases [illegible] killer (NK [illegible] ls, and enhances a host [illegible] enabl[illegible] [illegible] Vitamin [illegible] has [illegible] Its [illegible] effects are [illegible] of [illegible] Vitamin [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] plus [illegible] body [illegible]

SARS . . .

From page 16

coronavirus may be the cause of SARS) have been shown to survive in the environment for as long as 3 hours. To reduce the overall risk for infection by touching contaminated objects and surfaces, CDC recommends that people wash their hands thoroughly and often with soap and water."

What is the treatment for SARS?

The CDC-recommended treatment regimen includes antibiotics to treat bacterial agents known to cause atypical pneumonia, antiviral agents such as ribavirin and oseltamivir. Additionally, steroids have been administered either intravenously or orally in combination with ribavirin and other antimicrobials. These are the same treatments that are recommended for patients who have developed atypical pneumonia after exposure to it from another patient as opposed to the pneumonia developing from a more typical respiratory illness that progressed to pneumonia.

Although several such treatment regimens have been employed for SARS patients, there is not yet sufficient information to know how effective they are.

Preventing SARS infection

The World Health Organization (WHO) so far lists around 25 countries as affected by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), gathering more than 4,000 victims, and more than 250 deaths worldwide. SARS is indeed infectious and everybody should take preventive measures to avoid contracting its deadly virus.

The SARS virus is believed to be contracted through droplets - by direct physical contact with infected persons or through contaminated objects. Droplets are vapor that come out of the mouth when a person coughs, sneezes, or by merely talking.

The Department of Health and health experts worldwide recommend the following to avoid SARS infection.

Hand sanitation. Make it a habit to wash hands frequently, using alcohol-based hand rubs especially after contact from another person who might have sneezed or coughed. Disinfect hands with 70% Isopropyl Alcohol. A clinical study shows 70% Isopropyl Alcohol can kill disease causing germs including coronavirus, a virus which can cause the common cold. A strain of coronavirus is currently being considered as the main cause of SARS.

Hand cover. Disposable gloves can prevent contact with the virus especially for health workers. However, this should not replace hand washing and disinfection. These gloves must be disposed properly and hands must be washed and disinfected after use.

Nose and mouth cover. When sneezing or coughing, cover the mouth and nose with facial tissue. SARS patients should also wear clean masks with filter to prevent spreading droplets. Uninfected individuals are also advised to wear masks especially when in close contact with SARS patient.

Outdoor exposure. Avoid crowded places. In case this cannot be avoided, disinfect hands immediately after exposure.

Healthy lifestyle. Some tips on how to strengthen one's resistance: Maintain a balanced diet, take Vitamin C regularly, exercise and refrain from smoking.

Don't get trapped in this mystery called SARS. You can fight it and get yourself and your loved ones protected.

For inquiries, call DOH IWAS SARS Hotline: 741 7048 [illegible] 743 [illegible] or text [illegible] 4665823

BAND-AID
IWAS SARS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SARS
IWAS
150 mL
Johnson's
ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL
BAND-AID ALCOHOL
DISINFECTANT
According to a World Health Organization (WHO) study, the coronavirus may be the cause of S.A.R.S.*
Disinfect with BAND-AID® 70% Isopropyl Alcohol.
Kills 99.99% of disease-causing germs™.
*For more information, visit: www.who.int

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome has hogged the headlines for weeks, raising questions as to what we can actually do to fight it. The answer was remarkably simple. Keep yourself healthy. Now, more than ever, vitamins have never been so important.

GET MORE DEFENSE AGAINST SARS.

BENEFITS OF VITAMIN C

Vitamin C plays an important role in building our bodies' immunity.

- It inhibits the growth of viruses and is therefore crucial in the treatment of viral diseases.
- It stimulates macrophage functions.
- It increases the activity of natural killer (NK) cells.
- It enhances a host of bodily functions which enable our bodies to fight viral diseases and infections.*

THE DOUBLE ADVANTAGE OF ENERVON TO HELP FIGHT THE VIRUS

Vitamin C (Anti-Infection)
+ Vitamin B-Complex (Produces Antibodies/ Helps Release Energy)

Better Defense Against SARS

B-COMPLEX
VITAMIN C

BENEFITS OF B - COMPLEX VITAMIN

- Helps maintain a healthy level of antibodies.
- Maintains a healthy immune system by preventing deficiencies.
- Releases energy that gives added strength to our immunity to sickness.

* *from article by M.P. Macapinlac, M.D., Ph.D.*

30 Tablets
MULTIVITAMINS
ENERVON-C Tablet

MULTIVITAMINS
ENERVON

Vitamin C and a full complement of the B - Complex vitamins provide essential metabolic elements needed for the proper utilization of carbohydrates, proteins and fats – the three main sources of energy.

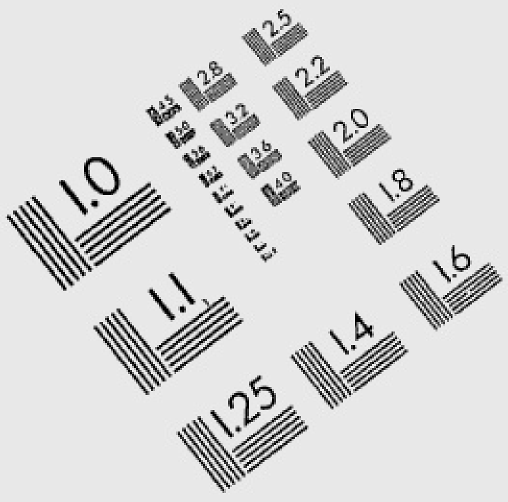
A steady supply of energy is crucial as lack of this could impair our immune function.

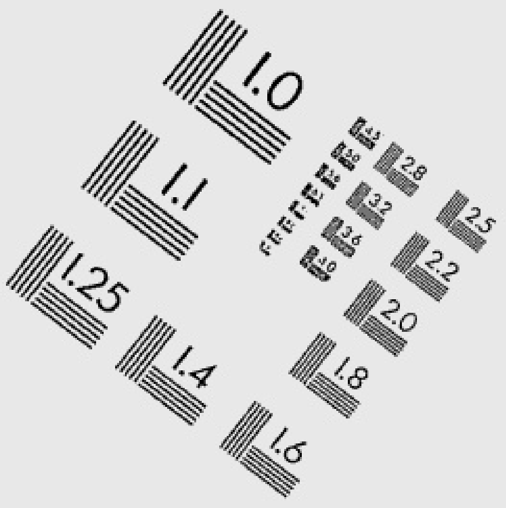
ENERVON LABAN SA PAGOD PUYAT AT SAKIT

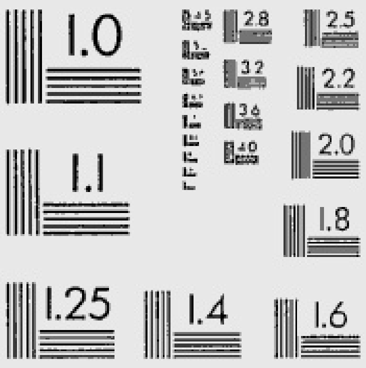
BE SAFER FROM SARS: BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY

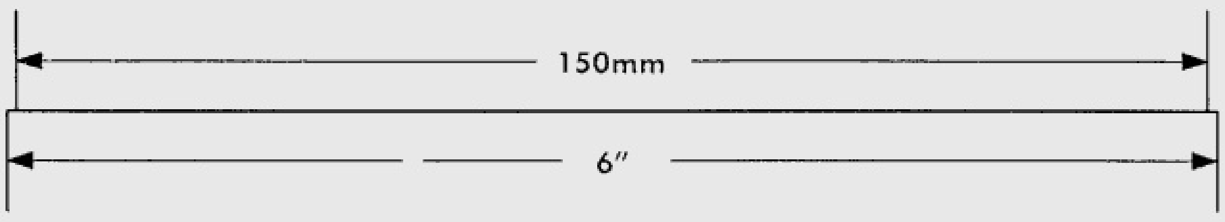
Like the common cold, SARS has no cure yet. And we have no other recourse but to take all measures to prevent it, making sure we take the requisite vitamins which will boost our immunity to give us stronger resistance.

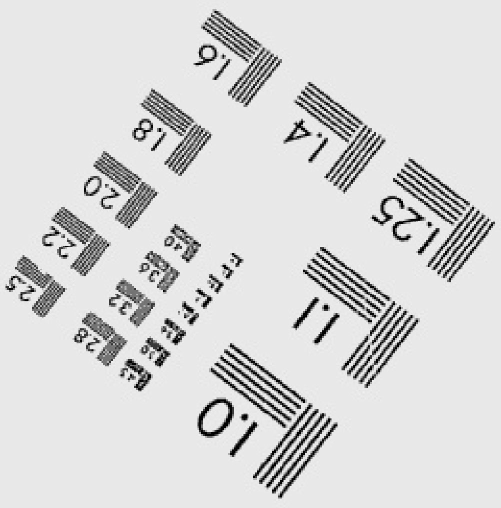
IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)

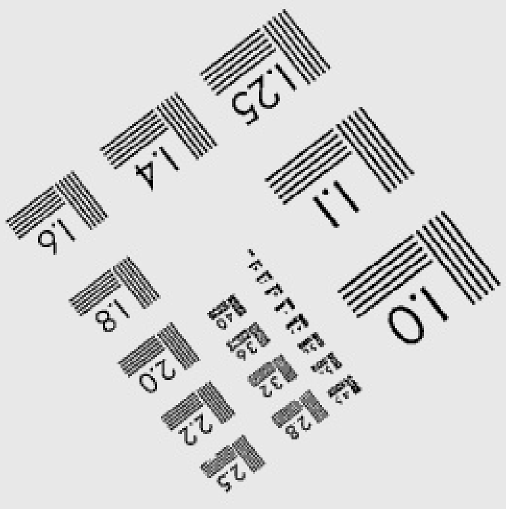

1.0
1.1
1.25
1.4
1.6
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.5
2.8
3.2
3.6
4.0


1.0
1.1
1.25
1.4
1.6
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.5
2.8
3.2
3.6
4.0


1.0
2.8
2.5
3.2
2.2
3.6
2.0
4.0
1.1
1.8
1.25
1.4
1.6




1.6
1.4
1.8
2.0
1.25
2.2
1.1
2.5
2.8
1.0


1.25
1.4
1.1
1.6
1.0
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.8
2.5

APPLIED IMAGE, Inc
1653 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14609 USA
Phone 716/482-0300
Fax 716/288-5989

993, Applied Image, I . All Rights Reserved

END

PLEASE REWIND

START

ATENEO DE MANILA
UNIVERSITY
RIZAL LIBRARY

P.O. BOX 154, MANILA, PHILIPPINES

UNAUTHORIZED REPRODUCTION FORBIDDEN

FILMED: JANUARY 2004
REDUCTION: 19

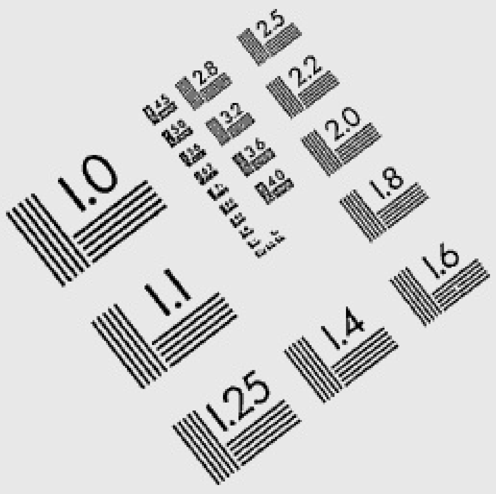
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

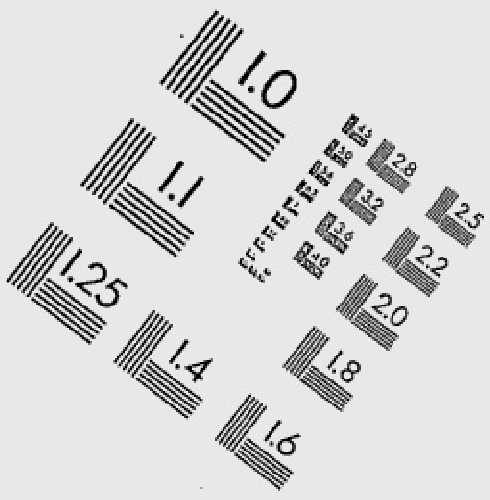
METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES

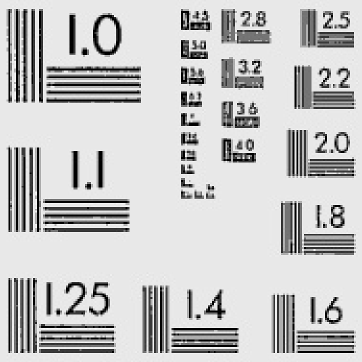
AUGUST
1 THRU 15
2003

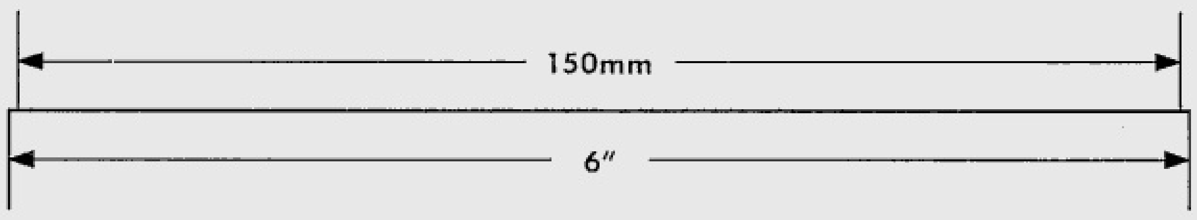
REEL 314

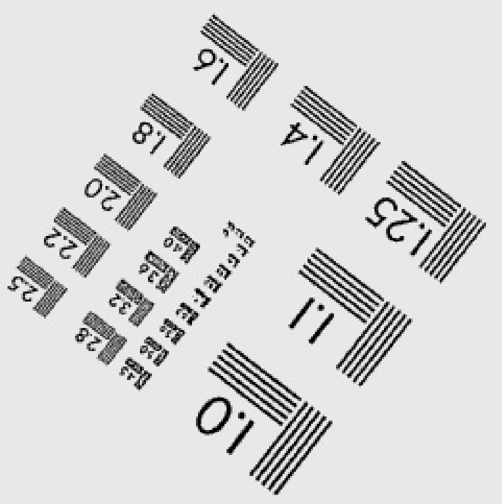
IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)

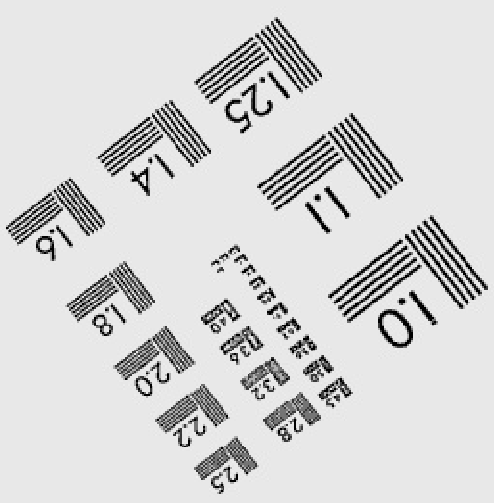

1.0
2.5
2.8
2.2
3.2
2.0
3.6
4.0
1.8
1.1
1.6
1.4
1.25


1.0
1.1
2.8
2.5
3.2
2.2
3.6
4.0
2.0
1.25
1.8
1.4
1.6


1.0
2.8
2.5
3.2
2.2
3.6
2.0
4.0
1.1
1.8
1.25
1.4
1.6




1.6
1.4
1.8
1.25
2.0
2.2
1.1
2.5
1.0


1.25
1.4
1.1
1.6
1.0
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.5

APPLIED IMAGE, Inc
1653 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14609 USA
Phone: 716/482-0300
Fax: 716/288-5989

© 1993, Applied Image, Inc. All Rights Reserved